

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Gift wrapped
From food to politics.
English life is being
taken over by American
dream packaging

Open season
A threat of cuts darkens
the future of the Open
University

For the record
Philip Howard spells out
the awkward differences
between journalists
and archivists

Try, try again
Simon Barnes talks to
Alan Jones, the
outspoken coach of the
Australian Rugby team

Portfolio

Three share £6,000

The Times Portfolio prize
was shared between three
winners yesterday. Ms
Milly Macintosh of Blo-
field, Norwich; Mr Albert
Clifford of Albrighton, nr
Wolverhampton; and Mr
Andrew Terroni of Brook-
mans Park, Hertfordshire,
each receive £2,000. Port-
folio list, page 24; how to
play and rules, back page
Information Service.

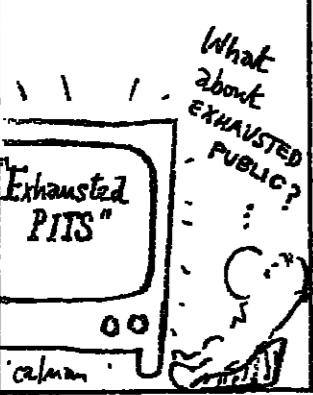
UK visible trade £764m in red

Imports at record levels pushed
up Britain's visible trade deficit
for September to £764m - more
than the deficit for the whole of
1983. Despite the bad trade
figures, the Nacods decision
lifted the pound 1% cents to
\$1.225. Page 21

Easing control

A relaxation of security control
zones in Northern Ireland is
being authorized by the Sec-
retary of State, subject to the
discretion of the local police

Page 5



Soviet move

The Soviet party plenum, called
to examine the poor state of
agriculture, produced no sug-
gestion of reform but revealed that
Mr Mikhail Gorbachov no
longer holds the portfolio

Page 10

Chief may quit

Mr Alf Parrish, chief constable of
Derbyshire, who was sus-
pended after allegations that he
spent £28,000 from the police
housing fund on improving his
offices, is expected to resign
tomorrow.

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Obituary, page 20
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Werner, Henri Michaux
Features, pages 15, 18

A new approach to the coal
strike; the Freddie Dean;
America's other key election;
Ronald Butt takes issue with
Lord Scarman; Spectrum: the
British Library

Books, pages 6 and 17
Nicholas Shakespeare and
Stuart Evans, new fiction;
"Jane Somers"; Erica
Jong, Don DeLillo, and Sorren-
to Marco, Boats on crime;
Woodrow Wyatt on Foreign
Secretaries, and Jock Bruce-
Gardyne on Mrs Thatcher.

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NUM to fight alone as Nacods agrees pit peace formula

● The pit deputies' union, Nacods, yesterday called off its strike scheduled for today. The NUM is now left to fight on alone against colliery closures.

● NUM leaders will meet the Coal Board today, but are unlikely to accept the formula agreed by Nacods for a settlement of the dispute.

● On the eve of today's critical talks with the miners' union, the Coal Board appeared increasingly split over strategy and the role of Mr Michael Eaton.

● Moves will be made in the High Court today to seize the assets of the NUM, which has not paid a £200,000 fine for contempt.

Page 2

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Union of Mineworkers was left to fight on alone last night, after pit deputies decided not to join the eight-months-old strike over colliery closures.

Leaders of the National Association of Colliery Officers, Deputies and Shopfitters (Nacods) unanimously agreed to call off an all-out stoppage due to begin at 6am today, after accepting terms of settlement in their own dispute with the National Coal Board.

NUM leaders are to meet the Coal Board this morning, for talks aimed at ending their long-running conflict, but they will be held on the basis of the peace deal agreed with Nacods yesterday, and the striking pitmen have made clear their refusal to accept this formula as a settlement.

The talks between the miners and the Coal Board will take place at the headquarters of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), and Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the Trade Union Congress last night appealed to both sides to reach a settlement.

"The NCB must approach tomorrow's talks with the NUM genuinely seeking a settlement of this costly and damaging dispute," he said.

Mr Willis's comments reflect

the private concern of Labour movement leaders that yesterday's events may have created a "clearing of the decks" for the Coal Board to concentrate its fire power on the National Union of Mineworkers, after getting the Nacods issue out of the way.

Sources politically close to Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, but outside the coal industry were last night predicting that the pits strike could go on for another four months. The miners' demands remain unaltered. They are

insisting on total withdrawal of the NCB's programme of March 6 pit closures, unconditional guarantees for continuing operation on five named pits, and acceptance by the Board that there will be no closures on purely "economic" grounds.

On that basis, the talks are practically bound to fail, but the Government will be greatly relieved that the strike threatened by 16,000 pit deputies has been abandoned.

The decision means that working pits producing around

Continued on back page, col 1

Coal board rift over strategy as Eaton waits in the wings

By Craig Seton

On the eve of today's crucial peace talks in the pit dispute there are signs of a growing rift among senior members of the National Coal Board over strategy. There are indications that the appointment of Mr Michael Eaton as personal adviser to Mr Ian MacGregor, the chairman, has heightened disagreement.

Mr Eaton, the director of the North Yorkshire coalfield, was appointed to improve the board's public relations. He was surprisingly not present at the talks between the deputies' union Nacods and the coal board on Tuesday or yesterday, although he had given the impression that he would attend the impression that he would attend them.

The board said yesterday that it had not been decided whether Mr Eaton would be called into today's talks at the offices of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, but it has been suggested that at least some board members do not want him involved and were dismayed by his appointment because Mr MacGregor had to look outside for an adviser.

His appointment and publicity over the weekend which dubbed him as "Mr Fixit" is also thought to have upset

One regional official said yesterday: "There are many senior people who would like him to become a fully-fledged member of the negotiating team."

The coal board said yesterday: "He did not attend the Nacods talks because he was not called for. His role is an advisory one - he is not a member of the negotiating team. The press seemed to think that he would come riding over the hill like the Seventh Cavalry, but that was never the intention."

Mr Eaton: "Mr Fixit" role denied by board.

Continued from back page, col 1

Top crime family in US charged

New York (Reuter) - The entire leadership of the Colombo family, often described as the General Motors of US organized crime, was charged yesterday with racketeering, extortion and theft.

Among the 11 indicted were the family's alleged crime boss Carmine Persico, aged 51, his reputed lieutenant Genovese Langella, aged 45, and his alleged chief advisor Thomas DiBella, aged 78.

The indictment charged that in three and a half years investigation showed the family controlled seven unions in New York city in the construction and restaurant industries.

Mr Botha responded to Mr Rifkind: "He says he is

Botha calls in envoy to explain Rifkind remarks

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The British Ambassador to South Africa, Mr Patrick Moberly, was summoned yesterday by Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, for what was described as a general discussion of bilateral relations.

Mr Botha said the statement to the House of Commons on Tuesday by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Office Minister responsible for Africa, had been extensively discussed.

Mr Rifkind told the Commons that South Africa's failure to return four of its citizens to Britain to face trial on arms-smuggling charges would have a significant effect on bilateral relations.

Mr Botha responded to Mr Rifkind: "He says he is

Townships tense, page 10

Continued from back page, col 1

Continued from back page,

Jaguar workers vote to strike

By Barrie Clement
Labour Reporter

Workers at the newly privatized Jaguar car company yesterday voted to strike from next Thursday in support of a £25 a week pay rise.

The company said that would deal a massive blow to its financial performance and jeopardize its growing share of the United States luxury car market.

Management insisted that there was no question of the company being forced into a higher offer.

Union leaders claimed the 22 per cent offer over two years was worth about 14 per cent in new money and would not allow the 7,000 workers to share in the company's success.

But management said the workers were the highest paid in the motor industry and the offer would keep them top of the league.

Meanwhile, Austin Rover appealed to its 28,000 workers to vote against industrial action.

NUJ says bingo is illegal

Bingo games run by newspapers are illegal, according to advice obtained by the National Union of Journalists, which has received council's opinion that games concurred the 1976 Lotteries Act. Sympathetic MPs have agreed to raise the matter with the Attorney General and the Director of Public Prosecutions in England and the Lord Advocate in Scotland. If the games were declared illegal newspapers could face criminal prosecution if they continued to use them.

Unions talk on technology

Officials of the National Union of Journalists yesterday met representatives of the National Graphical Association and detailed their objections to a proposed new technology deal.

Under it NGA men at the *Portsmouth News* would be given jobs as sub-editors. The NUJ threatened that if the deal was ratified, the NUJ would urge its chapels to negotiate to by-pass work traditionally done by NGA members.

Pensions talks

Talks aimed at ending the pensions strike at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, now in its twenty-fourth week, are to resume again today amid signs that useful progress is being made. The Department of Health and Social Security said last night after negotiations in Newcastle.

Aslef wait

Judgment was reserved in the High Court yesterday on a claim by the train drivers' union, Aslef, which seeks compensation for drivers suffering from nervous shock caused by suicides and other railway trespassers.

Voted down

A left-wing move to delay the return of trade unions to the National Economic Development Council was narrowly defeated at a meeting of the TUC General Council yesterday.

Labour Cabinet is blamed for DeLorean debacle

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The blame for the ill-fated DeLorean sports car project, which lost more than £70m of taxpayers' money in four years, was yesterday laid squarely on Cabinet ministers in the last Labour government.

In spite of repeated and grave warnings about the risks involved, Mr Roy Mason, then Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and his colleagues gave permission for the venture in 1978: a mistake which could not happen now, a memorandum from the province's department of finance and personnel said.

The memorandum is the Government's official response to the critical report published in July by the powerful Commons Public Committee which said that the DeLorean project was "one of the gravest cases of the misuse of public resources for many years."

Mr Mason, who is not named in the memorandum, hoped that the car project in west Belfast would ease some of the area's acute political, social, economic and security difficulties.

Although John De Lorean's plans were described as "an Extraordinarily risky venture" with "remote" chances of success by independent assessors in July 1978, the Government supported the team of officials which negotiated the De Lorean deal.

The same team of civil servants had been responsible for six other successful American investments in the province which were now providing 2,300 jobs.

The then government de-

Steel shifts stance on cruise

By Anthony Berwin, Political Correspondent

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, has joined Dr David Owen in suggesting that the British nuclear deterrent might be kept alive by firing cruise missiles from the torpedo tubes of hunter-killer submarines.

News of the Liberal leader's conversion to Dr Owen's long-standing proposal broke at Westminster yesterday with a denial of a *Times* report that the Social Democrat leader had embarrassed Mr Steel with a suggestion that Britain might make its own nuclear warheads to be delivered by cruise missiles.

Last month's Liberal assembly in Bournemouth reaffirmed Liberal opposition to the maintenance of an independent British nuclear deterrent and called for the immediate withdrawal of American cruise missiles.

The left is now in a small minority on the crucial appeals and mediation committee which will deal with internal disputes over reselection. The executive agreed that party officers, including Mr Kinnock and Mr Roy Hattersley, should have the right to attend and vote at that committee.

Mr Benn was also defeated when he tried to get the executive to back the total breaking of diplomatic relations with South Africa.

The NEC appointed a delegation to discuss with the miners' union ways of assisting its campaign in the coal dispute. Mr Eric Heffer is widely expected to lose his place as a member of the Shadow Cabinet in a parliamentary ballot which closes tonight.

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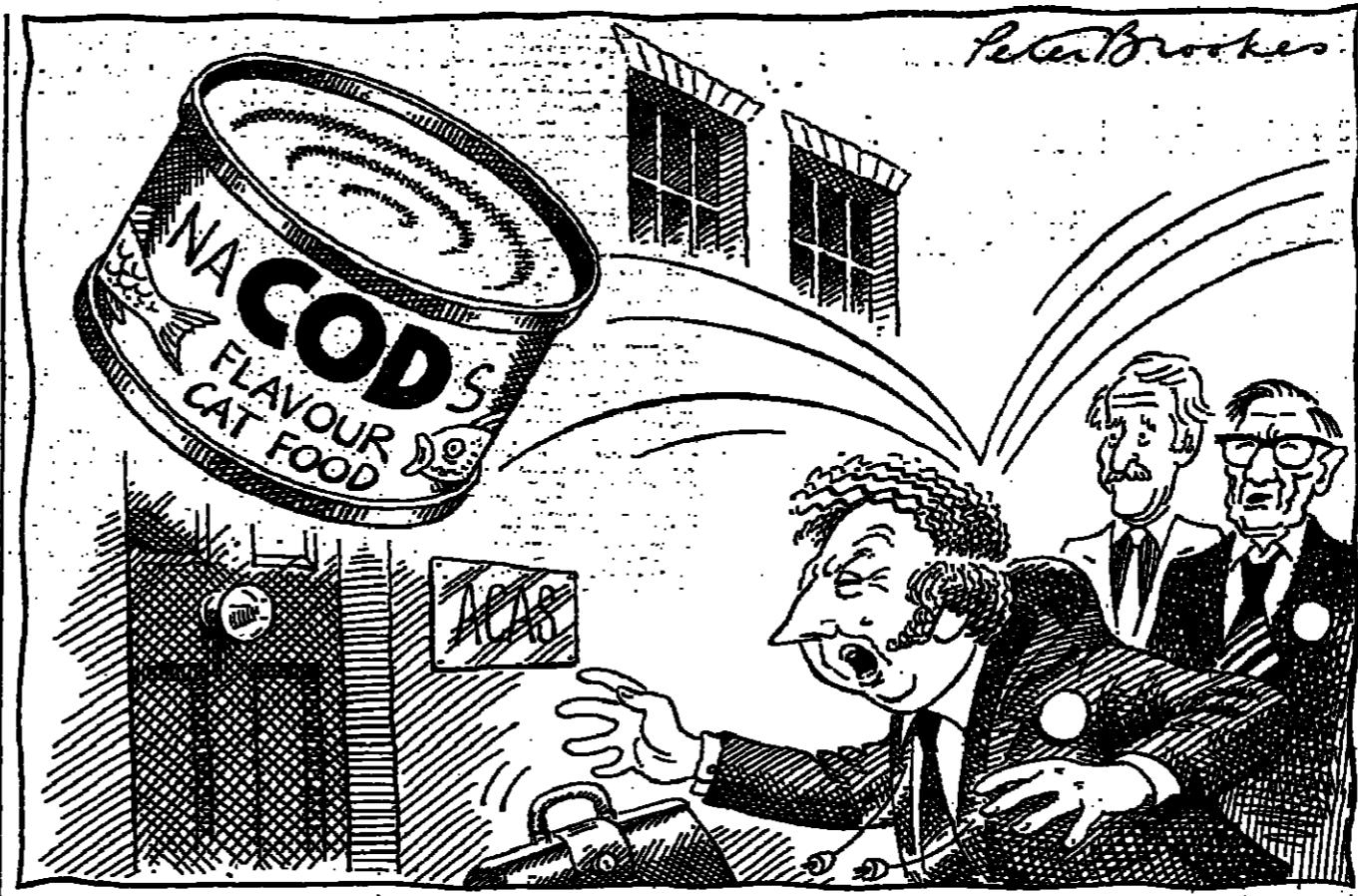
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The miners' strike

Moves today to seize assets

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

New High Court moves will be made today to seize the assets of the National Union of Mineworkers after the expiry at midnight last night of the deadline for payment of the £200,000 fine imposed for contempt of court.

Lawyers for the two Yorkshire miners who brought the contempt proceedings will apply before Mr Justice Nicholls for leave for the issuing of writs of sequestration.

The City firm of chartered accountants, Price Waterhouse, has agreed to act as Commissioners of Sequestration if the judge agrees to the writs and would act to seize the assets as soon as possible.

The same firm handled the sequestration of the assets of the South Wales area of the NUM when it failed to pay a £50,000 contempt fine at the beginning of August.

Mr Justice Nicholls imposed the £200,000 fine and one of

the miners' funds are seized.

He said: "The government

cannot longer continue to be receiving strike pay is provided by the NUM's funds.

Since the strike began £15 a week has been deducted from supplementary benefit to miners' families on the assumption that they are receiving strike pay, although no strike pay is provided by the NUM's funds.

If the miners' funds are

seized, he said, "the government

cannot longer continue to be receiving strike pay."

Mr Arthur Scargill and

miners' leaders were

yesterday preparing for a seige

of the union headquarters in

Sheffield. Mr Scargill's wife

arrived at the NUM head-

quarters and began unloading a

car load of food.

Papers reveal NCB concessions

NUM comments on document

Officials' attendance at work - 1974 guidelines: This is a matter solely for Nacods and does not involve the NUM at all.

Conciliation Procedure: This is a matter solely for Nacods.

Supervision of work in cavities - the Hammond case: This is a matter relating to Nacods - we have certain observations but they are not relevant to the dispute between the NCB and NUM.

Closed shop: Discussion of the closed shop is a matter for Nacods - we have our own view on what agreement should be reached between the NCB and the NUM but that does not concern Nacods.

CENTRAL ISSUES

The five point plan:

The coal board proposal on this matter cannot be accepted - the NUM have already extracted a verbal promise from the board that the five pits will be kept open on the basis of the NUM's mining engineers submissions.

This NCB document proposals on the five pits is even less acceptable than that contained in the board's published document dated July 18, 1984. The board's South Yorkshire

Negotiation papers tabled in the confidential pit peace talks disclose how far the National Coal Board has moved, and the measure of the National Union of Mineworkers' hard line bargaining position.

The NCB has promised "completely to reconsider" its March 6 colliery closure programme but the striking miners insist that it must be withdrawn without reservation. The documents tabled by the NUM.

Two sides in the conflict were yesterday being closely studied by the NCB, the pit deputies' union, Nacods, and the TUC.

Copies of both key papers in the possession of *The Times* are reproduced in full, below. The first document was tabled by the National Coal Board when it went into talks with the pit deputies on Tuesday morning. The second is a glossary with policy comments from the NUM.

As previously stated, the board are very ready to re-examine the Review Procedure and to adopt any amendments which will make it effective. The association will be appropriate of course that this must be done in a way which will meet with the approval of all the parties concerned, including NUM and BACM.

The board believe that the procedure as it stands is unique and is something that we should all make work. This will of course require the active effort of all the parties, not just that of management.

You clearly are concerned that the arrangements should work, so that at local colliery level, as well as area level, an early and continuing understanding of the prospects of the pit concerned. We believe our plan should be readily understood and updated in the form of five point plan, reflecting the market and production opportunities. We believe that if this is done it should remove the fear you have that actions will be taken covertly which would shorten the life expectancy of a pit without reaching an understanding among all the parties concerned.

Given that this is done we would expect that there should not be conflict over investment or other decisions. If, however, such conflict arose, that could be dealt with from that early stage within the Review Procedure so that all parties could be given ample time to brief themselves adequately.

As Mr Jones observed this morning, the essence of this will be seen in the future but you may be assured of the board's intent to obtain an arrangement satisfactory to both parties.

Supervision of Work in Cavities - the Hammond case

As previously stated by the board to you, we reaffirm that it is our intention that the Hammond case should be pursued constructively by Mr Cowan in his letter of July 17.

It is the board's purpose that the case shall go to the House of Lords only on the basis of clarifying the legal ruling.

Closed Shop

As previously stated in our letter to you of September 27, the board acknowledge that we do at present recognize with you a de facto closed shop. The board agree that this arrangement should continue into the future. Should the association reach an agreement on this matter, however, it would have to be undertaken in compliance with current legislation.

The final paragraph of the board's document is tantamount to saying if you accept the coal board's pit closure programme then we will discuss with you amendments to clause 3(c).

Clause 3(c) would be irrelevant if the points referred to were accepted and the NUM cannot in any way agree to this coal board document, which projects a closure programme involving 70 pits and the destruction of 70,000 jobs.

NCB observations for Nacods talks

The board accept entirely that a major component in the management of the industry depends on understanding and trust between the board and Nacods. It is the board's wish that such trust should be established and maintained.

You opened this morning by referring to a number of items previously discussed and I think agreed satisfactorily between us and indeed the board's attitude confirmed to you in recent correspondence. However, I will refer to them again so that there may be no misunderstanding.

Officials' Attendance at Work - 1974 Guidelines

The board have withdrawn the August 15 statement and management have been instructed to observe the pattern of behaviour which had been established in each area with regard to the 1974 guidelines. Arising out of this affirmation, management has been instructed that payments arising shall be paid retrospectively to all staff.

The points raised in this connection by you this morning will be pursued immediately. We hope to clarify the position later today.

Colliery Review Procedure - Independent Review Body

The association has asked for a revision of the Colliery Review Procedure to ensure that it operates effectively and fairly within the industry. Specifically you have asked for:

(i) An early warning procedure where local members believe their colliery is deliberately, by various means, being run down as a prelude to closure investigations.

(ii) Inside the Colliery Review

Procedure greater availability in branch offices when preparing a case to oppose closure of time and facilities to information.

(iii) Any final notice of closure to be issued would allow national officers time to consult the membership.

(iv) Any final closure notice not agreed between the NCB and the association to be subject to an appeal to an independent body.

President at ease among the Frenglish

President Mitterrand, who told our Paris Correspondent in yesterday's interview that "History is made by its actors" yesterday proved a worthy successor to President Reagan in treading the boards at the Palace of Westminster.

The French President gave every appearance of being quite at home in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords. The room is ridiculously over-ornamented in what Britons take to be the Gothic (or, more particularly, French) manner, but is full of usages that should make a patriotic Frenchman squirm. Pictures of Trafalgar and Waterloo celebrate our ancient eminences, and the gilded statue close behind the President's right shoulder was that of Henry V, the victor of Agincourt.

The President successfully affected not to notice. He was greeted by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone the Lord Chancellor, wearing a sumptuous outfit that in France would be reserved for the principal officer of some guild in the food trade. The French love dressing up, as was evidenced by the vivid informality of their own press corps, who had blithely ignored the dress rules (dress suit) for the occasion.

Lord Hailsham set out to make the French President (who dressed up as an Englishman) comfortable by improving the historical context. He referred to Asterix the Gaul. He did even better mentioning pheasants.

This was obviously intended to appeal to the Frenchman in the President who is a food among statesmen.

Lord Hailsham, having talked about English mispronunciation of French, which he called Frenglish, rounded off in a French of his own, liberally larded with the word "Vive".

The warm-up man having done his stuff, the President rose. It must be an actor's greatest fear that when he speaks his lines he does not carry his audience with him. President Mitterrand overcame it with unflapable aplomb. He spoke in French.

After some dozen sentences there was a little shuffling of feet. To the horror of many in the audience, who had seen the interpreter's microphone tested for sound, the interpreter, crouching low, crept across the stage and went out of the door.

At this awful moment it dawned on us that the interpreter's microphones were not going to be used.

President Mitterrand orated confidently on. At 12.14 he made a little joke, about the Mother of Parliaments. If the Lord Chancellor had said it the audience would have been on his side. As it was, they did not move a muscle. The President undismayed, brought in Locke, Montesquieu and Voltaire. Not many laughs there.

Medical tribunal says NHS should pay for anti-smoking chewing gum

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The National Health Service should pay for the anti-smoking chewing gum, Nicorette, which is available only on prescription, a medical tribunal has decided.

The ruling, which overturns the efforts of Mr Norman Fowler to stop family doctors prescribing the chewing gum on the NHS, could cost £20m a year.

Moreover, the Treasury could lose many more millions of pounds from the lost tax revenue from people who successfully "kicked the habit".

The chewing gum concerned is said to be more than twice as effective as other anti-smoking treatments.

But since the ingredients have clear pharmacological properties, or in other words, they behave like a drug, the chewing gum is a prescription-only product.

Moreover, the substance is

not classified officially as a medicine.

But Nicorette is the sole prescription-only product which is not on the NHS drugs tariff, and hence can be offered as a course of treatment only on a private basis. It costs about £7 for two weeks' supply, against the standard prescription charge of £1.60 for each course of treatment.

The issue has been brought to a head by several doctors, who prescribed a course of treatment under the NHS for patients among whom nicotine-dependence was regarded as a serious medical problem.

The chewing gum was issued by pharmacists to the patients. Subsequently, the prescriptions were picked up by the Prescription Pricing Authority for referral to the local Family Practitioner Committees for disciplinary action. The GPs could have the

cost of the prescriptions withheld from their payments.

An appeal to the DHSS, the issue was referred to a medical tribunal last June, at which a lawyer and two doctors heard evidence from the GPs and from the DHSS.

The decision given yesterday in writing from the tribunal said: "We find the expert evidence is all one way".

The expert witness was Dr Mike Russell of the Maudsley Hospital, London, who has conducted one of the main trials on the efficacy of the chewing gum.

One of the four GPs involved was not making an appeal against the DHSS.

In the case of Dr Chris Steele, from Manchester, the appeal was being made by Mr Norman Fowler for the tribunal to reverse previous decisions made in favour of the doctor.

Help for parents of glue sniffers

By Nicholas Timmins and Colin Hughes

A leaflet for parents telling them how to spot and cope with glue sniffing among children is being sent to health authorities, and a national network of "helplines" is being launched.

The leaflet, which will be available through health and local authorities, tells parents to look for a chemical smell on the breath or unexplained traces of glue or other solvents on clothes or body.

Soreness or redness round the eyes, persistent irritant cough, slurred speech, moodiness, behaviour and a sudden decline in school performance could also be signs of glue sniffing, the leaflet says.

The leaflet says: "For most youngsters it is a passing phase, but for some it can become a dangerous habit".

Boredom can lead to sniffing.

Accused man sickened by torture news, jury told

One of the three men alleged to have tortured Mr Harry Tipple, a London newsagent, and cut off one of his toes, wept the next day when he realized what they had done, a detective told the Central Criminal Court in London yesterday.

Edward Mitchell, aged 28, was physically sick, and started to cry after he heard of the news of the attack on Mr Tipple, aged 59, and his wife, Cicely, aged 56, the jury was told.

When interviewed by detectives, Mr Mitchell said he had not thought himself capable of doing what was inflicted on the couple at their home in

Peckham Park Road, Peckham, south London, on the night of February 13.

Mr Mitchell, of Primrose House, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham, is on trial with Terence Bradford, aged 23, of Carridale House, Saint Leonard's Road, Poplar, east London; and his brother, Charles Bradford, aged 24, of Glengall Road, Peckham.

All three deny assaulting the couple, causing them grievous bodily harm, and additionally wounding Mrs Tipple with intent to do her grievous bodily harm.

The trial continues today.

Thames profits from strike

By David Hewson

Thames Television expects to save £750,000 a week in wages to 1,000 technicians striking over the introduction of lightweight cameras.

Managers are putting out a makeshift service of entertainment programmes which they believe, are attracting more viewers than normal. Its advertising schedules are also full and expected to meet the £3.5m target.

One executive said yesterday: "We can hold out longer than the National Coal Board. We don't have to put out current affairs or documentary programmes which don't attract.

BBC's value 'proved' by bombing coverage

By Our Arts Correspondent

BBC television coverage of the Brighton bombing was cited as evidence that the corporation was not profligate by Mr Alan Protheroe, its assistant director-general.

The BBC, which had 300 staff in Brighton for the Conservative Party conference, was able to offer live coverage of the aftermath, while TV-am had no crew there.

Mr Protheroe said the corporation's success was proof that its critics did not understand the needs of a large broadcasting organization.

The BBC team broadcast more than 28 hours of network television and four hours of national radio from Brighton, 1½ hours on the World Service, also 21 hours in 32 languages, and coverage on regional television and radio.

"It is an essential requirement of public service journalism to report fully and accurately. It was coverage acclaimed around the world for the way it showed what terrorism and its consequences are."

"It showed the courage of the Prime Minister, Cabinet ministers, firemen, policemen and

ignoring its franchise responsibility."

No talks are planned, though informal contacts have been maintained, partly through the Independent Television Contractors' Association.

Thames denies that it is making a stand to break new ground over technology for the rest of the commercial network. The union says it is willing to use a new lightweight camera, but not for them to be used to drastically reduce manning.

Yesterday, around 35 Thames executives arrived early in the morning to supervise production. At the Euston Road headquarters, nicknamed "Fort Euston", they assembled commercial breaks, and in the afternoon about 15, five less than demanded for with union, supervised the output through a link with the Post Office tower.

Thames had feared that the link might be blocked by Post Office engineers, and was prepared to go to court to end action which could have been regarded as secondary.

On the picket line, there is agreement that the dispute is the most bitter since the strike which closed down the commercial network for 10 weeks in 1979.

Thames executives are also discussing a news service. Among their ranks are former Fleet Street journalists who could read bulletins from Press Association tapes. The news service could be maintained even if Thames's 80 journalists who belong to the National Union of Journalists, agree to a request from Mr Sapper not to cross picket lines.

The union's headquarters advised journalists to obey the call yesterday.

Thames executives, however, privately acknowledge that the film editor whose case started the strike has a genuine grievance about their position in the complex pay structure. They earn between £13,000 and £19,000 a year, less than dabbler makers and video editors.

The highest paid ACTT members are producer/directors, who earn between £30,000 and £34,000 a year.

This year, Thames gave its staff 10 per cent of their salaries after record pre-tax profits of £13.2m, compared with £8.8m the previous year.

Boy of 3 is awarded £30 for smack

Dion Hatfield, aged three, who ran into the road and was almost knocked down, was awarded £30 compensation yesterday at Teesside Crown Court for a smack deal him by his mother's friend, David Currie, aged 19, of Rievaulx Avenue, Billingham-on-Tees. Mr Currie, who admitted assault causing actual bodily harm, was put on probation for a year and ordered to pay the compensation at £1 a week to the boy, of Appleby Road, Billingham. It was suggested that he also buy a present.

Wife accused

Mrs Sukhpal Kaur Gill, aged 28, of Murchison Road, Leyton, east London, and Hardev Singh Grewal, who are accused of conspiring to murder Mr Harbans Singh Gill at Denham, Buckinghamshire, were remanded in custody until November 2 by magistrates at Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, yesterday.

Box for sale

Enormous interest was reported yesterday in a grand-tiered box at the Albert Hall which is for sale for at least £80,000. The 10-seat box is one of only three owned by descendants of the original holders, and entitles its owner to see any event at the Albert Hall.

Woman cleared

Mrs Celia Marks, aged 34, a housewife of Devonport Street, Stepney, east London, was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of recruiting a security guard to give information to aid a £142,000 armed robbery in the City.

Crash inquiry

The public inquiry into the Wembley Central train crash, in which three people died, on October 11, will be held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London on November 9.



A goosander catching a fish under water (above) has won the Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition. It will be displayed at the Natural History Museum from today until January 4.

The competition was organized by BBC Wildlife magazine, the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, the Natural History Museum and the Prudential Assurance Company.



The pair of mollymawks (left) won second prize for Ross Giblin of Plinlimont, New Zealand.

Jail for pension theft

A hotel cleaner collected her dead mother-in-law's pension from the Post Office each week for 12 years by signing with a cross. Bristol Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Edward Lewis, for the prosecution, said that Mrs Powell's mother-in-law, Mrs Maud Crates, died in 1971.

Mr Nicholas O'Brien, for the defence, said that Mrs Powell had initially used the money to pay off her mother-in-law's debts. The rest went on household goods and clothes for 30 more to be considered. The

court was told that she made almost £12,000.

Mr Lewis said that Mrs Powell's mother-in-law, Mrs Maud Crates, died in 1971.

Mr Lewis said that Mrs Powell had initially used the money to pay off her mother-in-law's debts. The rest went on household goods and clothes for her children.

Farm bought for Prince

The Duchy of Cornwall has bought a 420-acre farm next to Highgrove so he can take a more active part in day-to-day farming, a statement from

Broadfield Farm, in Tetbury, Gloucestershire, is being combined with some of the land from Highgrove to form a viable mixed farm enterprise for dairying, corn and sheep. The selling price has not been

disclosed.

The Prince has been anxious to extend his holdings near

Highgrove so he can take a more active part in day-to-day farming, a statement from

Buckingham Palace said.

Buckingham Palace said that terms had been agreed. The farm was owned by Mr Tony Keen, who ran IBL Farms with his father-in-law, Sir Kenneth Preston.

Pension and allowance book problems at the D.H.S.S.

At the moment, there's a problem at the D.H.S.S. which has stopped the issue of many pension and allowance books.

We have introduced special measures to ensure that you get your money but these take a lot longer than usual.

We apologise, therefore, for the inevitable delays at your post office. However, to help keep queues down we're putting on extra staffing where we can.

Meanwhile, if at all possible, it's best to avoid Tuesday and Thursday mornings. (They're our busiest times.)

And if you really can't avoid busy times, we apologise in advance for any inconvenience.

Post
Office

Hurd may relax Ulster towns security in drive for 'normality'

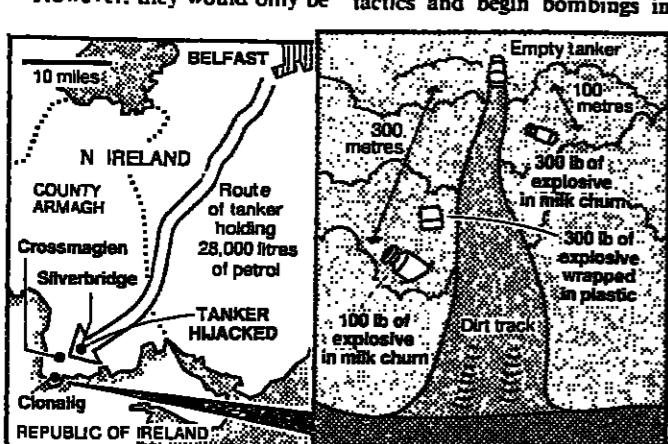
From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland is considering signing an order which would enable a major relaxation of security measures in Northern Ireland's towns and cities.

By signing the order, Mr Douglas Hurd would be signalling a further step along the Government's long-term road of trying to portray the province as returning slowly to "normality" and encouraging investment.

If Mr Hurd agrees, the proposals will allow for the removal of controlled zones, in which parking is forbidden in many towns unless passengers are in a car, and of security barriers outside Belfast. Such security measures have been in force since the early 1970s when terrorist car bombs wrought havoc in commercial centres across the province.

However, they would only be



Six-day operation to foil booby-trap

An elaborate Provisional IRA attempt to blow up soldiers with a triple booby-trap landmine has been foiled in one of the largest operations by army bomb disposal experts in Northern Ireland for many years.

Terrorists used a hijacked petrol tanker abandoned in the dangerous south Armagh borderland as bait, hoping to lure soldiers to their death by planting three huge hidden landmines near the vehicle.

Army bomb disposal experts worked for six days in the "badly country" near Crossmaglen to defuse the 700 lb triple bomb.

The carefully planned plot to kill members of the security forces began 10 days ago when the Provisional IRA hijacked a Shell petrol tanker taking 28,000 litres of fuel from Belfast to Crossmaglen.

The tanker was hijacked at Silverbridge, and left in an isolated col de sac off a cross-border road at Clonmag, a few miles from Crossmaglen. The Army spent several days photographing the tanker from the air before moving in seven days ago with several teams of bomb disposal men.

Police on both sides of the border were in contact with each other, closing roads and evacuating families from their homes in case of explosions.

Terrorists packed 100 lb of

home-made explosives into a milk churn and dug it into the ground about 300 yards from the abandoned tanker. A few yards away, they then planted a 300 lb device wrapped in plastic, expecting that as soldiers began to defuse the first bomb they would trigger the second one.

About 100 yards from the tanker, and further along the lane, security forces found another milk churn packed with 300 lb of explosives, with 20 lb of shrapnel built around it. None of the devices, dug into the ground and hidden by undergrowth, was linked to the tanker, which had been emptied of its valuable fuel.

Huge landmines are a popular weapon for the Provisionals. Some are operated by remote control as vehicles pass over them; others explode when touched, or when a plate is stepped on.

A police spokesman described the devices as "fiendish", adding that anyone approaching on the road could have been blown up. "It was only the expertise and courage of the bomb disposal men which undoubtedly saved many, many lives." The operation was the longest of its kind for several years.

The Provisional IRA in Crossmaglen admitted responsibility for the elaborate trap.

'Snatched' photograph condemned

A senior nursing officer who had been suspended from duty was manhandled out of his house and a photograph of him taken without his consent, the Press Council has ruled.

The council upheld a complaint by Mr Amadeo Dell'Erario, of St Albans, Herts, that journalists from *The Review*, St Albans, used improper methods to obtain and publish a photograph of him. The newspaper was censured for an improper intrusion into his privacy.

Mr Dell'Erario had said that his doorbell had been rung and when he opened the door he was immediately pushed into the hall by a woman who identified herself as Mrs Pat Kreit, a reporter.

Mrs Kreit asked if he had any comment to make on the hospital report, and as he was saying no, she pushed open the front door and pushed him outside, shutting the door behind him so that she was in the house, Mr Dell'Erario said.

He then discovered that a photographer standing in the street was taking his photograph.

Mr Dell'Erario told the Press Council that he did not object to the published story.

Bleeping for the baby

By Bill Johastone, Technology Correspondent

Parents who frequently have to leave their children with babysitters are expected to be among those attracted to cheap radio-telephone pagers to be sold by W. H. Smith, the retailer chain.

The pagers, which will retail from under £100, will be stocked at first in nine London stores, and if successful will be offered in others. The pagers are made in Japan but will be operated by Inter-City Paging (IPL), one of four groups

commercial areas once more.

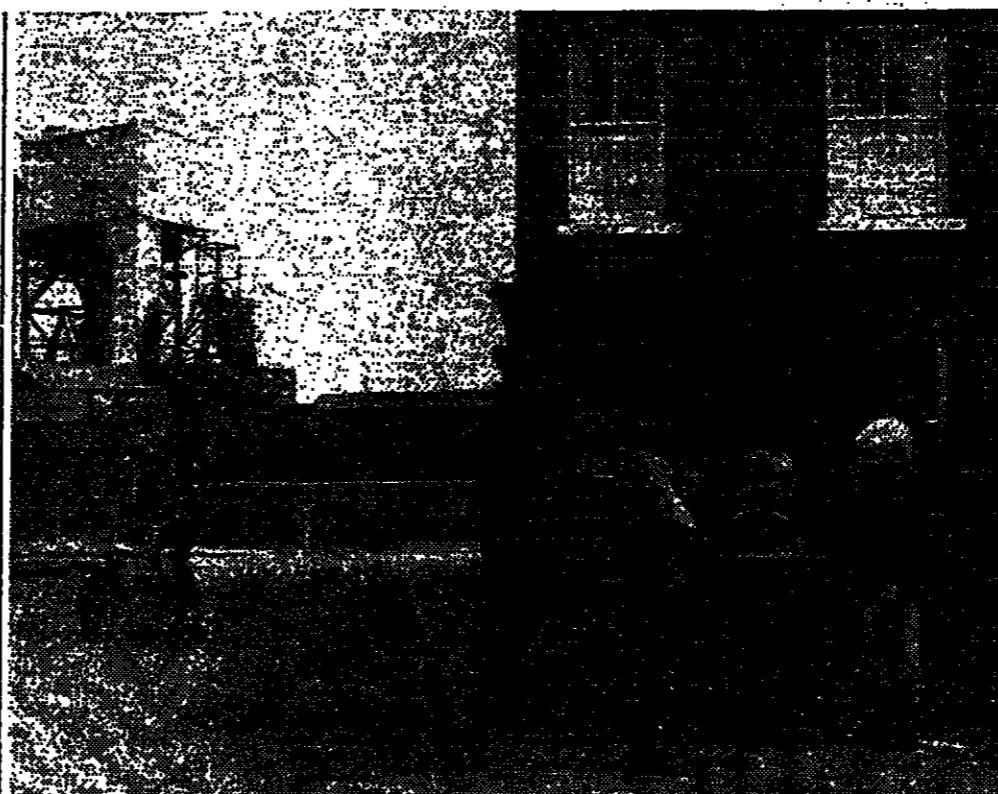
Throughout the province generally there is now a more relaxed attitude and Belfast is crowded with shoppers at weekends with new shops opening in the city centre which is still surrounded by 8-ft high security barriers.

In smaller towns it is thought that controls could be removed almost completely as long as normal parking restrictions were strictly enforced. But even if there is relaxation many stores will keep their own security guards because they believe customers feel more at ease.

The real worry for the Government is that the terrorists may alter their tactics which because they have not involved bombs in commercial areas have enabled the Government to say there has been a return to normality.

In a recent article in a Dublin-based magazine a Republican source said that Belfast City Centre was now being advertised as a marvellous big shopping centre.

Security sources feared that this could be a hint that terrorists might attack the city centre and certainly there has been an increased police presence in the area as the nights have become darker.



Bleak playground: Fryston, near Castleford, one of the Yorkshire pit villages considering its future in the light of the miners' strike. Much of the housing is deteriorating and local people have complained that if I'm promised to renovate it has not materialized. Photograph: Brian Harris

Future of pit villages: 2

Mobility lacking in Yorkshire homes

Detailed analysis of 1981 census data for the Yorkshire pit villages suggests how industrial solidarity extends into community life. David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent, continues his report.

Census data for 20 Yorkshire villages, where more than a quarter of men are employed in the pits, shows a series of youngish, rather immobile communities, where housing quality is above average but owner occupation is less than the national figure.

On behalf of *The Times*, CACI, the market researchers, studied census data for the 20 South Yorkshire wards with the heaviest employment in mining. The communities run from Thurnscoe, where 64 per cent of men are miners, to the central area of Barnsley, where 29 per cent are employed in mining.

The picture shows council housing much higher than the national figure of about one-third of tenures. Housing in the Barnsley and Doncaster areas is predominantly in estates of terraces and blocks built mostly since the Second World War. However, in Nottinghamshire council housing is more like the national average and there is more "cited" accommodation being rented out by the National Coal Board. Housing tends to be older and of poorer quality.

Perhaps surprisingly, nearly two-thirds of households in the mining areas of South Yorkshire have no resident children. Single parents are scarce; non-whites are completely absent. There is a high figure for households with more than two adults, suggesting perhaps the presence of grandparents in extended families and younger married couples living with

Data are copyright of CACI and the Crown.

Nottinghamshire mining areas								
Community	District	% unemploy'd (1981 figs)	Men in mining as % total in jobs	% travelling less than 5km to work	Neighbouring colliery/cols	Household	South Yorks	Note
Ollerton North	Newark	7.2	77	66	Ollerton/1,100	Owner occupied	45.7	49
Harworth East	Bassetlaw	10.0	72	74	Harworth/1,100	Council	45	312
Meden	Mansfield	8.0	69	56	Wolbeck/1,200	Lacking bath or sharing WC	4.4	84
Clipston	Newark	7.5	62	55	Clipston/1,300	More than one person per room	5.9	52
Edwinstone	Newark	4.7	61	52	Thoresby/1,400	No babies	62.7	612
Ash Lee	Rushcliffe	7.5	55	44	Colgrave/1,700	No working adults	28.2	251
Hulford	Newark	5.5	55	45	Hulford/1,300	No car	53.7	418
Rainworth	Newark	6.4	54	49	Mansfield/1,300	Pre-1914 terrace housing	7.7	122
Forest Town	Mansfield	7.0	51	59	Bildwold/337	Ethnic minority	N/A	10
Bildwold	Newark	8.1	49	51		Detached houses	N/A	84

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Gas cylinder ban for tower blocks urged by minister

By Charles Knevitt, Architecture Correspondent

The Government is urging flats to be strengthened at a cost of more than £100m after the Ronan Point disaster in 1968, which killed five people.

Mr Gow also confirmed that there was evidence that an early draft of part of the Ronan Point public inquiry report was changed along lines suggested in an allegation published in *The Times*. He added that he was unable to find a sheet containing the specific words quoted: "Deleted in a broad knibbed pen in purple ink".

The allegation was that a paragraph describing the strength of some walls in Ronan Point as comparable only to "the glass in a good window" was deleted by a government official, against the wishes of the author.

The Government said that the tribunal papers contained no evidence that the text signed by tribunal members and its secretary, was altered between its signature, receipt by the minister, and printing. That was not alleged in *The Times* report.

Mr Gow added that changes in working drafts were normal for a report of such length and complexity.



Growth industry: Andrew Kay, aged 19, from Sheffield, who since becoming an unemployed school leaver last year has raised cacti for local garden centres, supported by a bank loan and a Manpower Services Commission award. Now he has a £5,000 turnover.

Divisions at Plaid Cymru conference

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

The divisions in Plaid Cymru, which have been so carefully plastered over during the last three years by its president, Mr Dafydd Wigley, are threatening to dominate the party conference, which begins today.

Delegates are to debate two motions which will bring the rift into the open as the fundamental philosophy and future direction of the party is examined.

The debate has come about because of the decision of Mr Wigley, MP for Caernarfon, to

step down for family reasons. Two of his children have deteriorating

Two candidates for the post, Mr Dafydd Ellis Thomas and Mr Dafydd Iwan, the chairman, represent respectively the so-called red and green wings of the party.

Race bias 'offence' idea upsets police

By Peter Evans

The Police Federation has written to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, to protest against unexpected moves to make racial discrimination a disciplinary offence. The Police Superintendents Association also objects.

Mr Leslie Curtis, the federation's chairman, yesterday accused the Government of going back on undertakings by ministers to the federation and Parliament during previous stages of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

Mr Giles Shaw, Minister of State, Home Office, told Mr Curtis that the Government would not seek to overturn in the Commons tomorrow an amendment to the Bill in the Lords moved by Lord Scarman.

The Government was defeated last Friday by 71-65 on the amendment, which said that racially discriminatory behaviour should be made a specific disciplinary offence. It had been the Government's view that racial discrimination was covered by the disciplinary code.

Police Federation officials fear the offence will be "seized on gleefully by police monitoring groups in London and militant ethnic groups."

But the Commission for Racial Equality said yesterday: "To make racially discriminatory behaviour a specific offence in the disciplinary code is the single of the black community in the police."

French facing a day of chaos in united strike over pay offer

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Trains, air flights, banks, schools, hospitals and other services are expected to be severely disrupted throughout France today by a 24-hour strike called by six unions representing most of the country's 4.5 million public employees.

The strike is in protest against the Government's decision to increase wages in the public service sector this year by nearly 7 per cent. The unions, which until last year were used to having their wages indexed to the inflation rate, say the offer is unacceptable.

However, the Government argues that the total public salary bill will have increased by 7.6 per cent this year, which is exactly in line with its forecasts of the average rate of inflation during the year.

It appears determined to stick to its offer, which it sees as a pace-setter for coming wage negotiations in the private sector. Privately, it hopes that the public will not have much sympathy for a strike by employees who continue to enjoy job security at a time when hundreds of thousands of industrial workers are being made redundant.

The unions, and in particular the Communist-led CGT, are hoping for big responses today. They see the strike as a test of strength of their rank and file's opposition to the Government's policy of economic rigour. Only the Socialist CDTI union has declined to take part.

Similar action by three public-service unions last March resulted in the biggest single display of union discontent.

Aborigines enter a new world

From Tony Dubourdieu, Melbourne

The Federal Government is keeping secret the whereabouts of a small family of aborigines who have emerged from the great sandy desert in Western Central Australia to make what is believed to be their first contact with modern life.

The family, two men, three women, two boys and two girls, part of the Pintupi group or tribe, made contact last week with other Pintupi aborigines who left European settlements and moved back into the desert.

The Pintupi have lived in the area of Western Central Australia for an estimated 40,000 years and were among the last aboriginal groups to move into European settlements in the 1960s.

Apparently until the family established contact with other Pintupi they had lived in isolation in the harsh sandy area of the desert, using traditional skills of hunting and food gathering to survive. It is understood that the aborigine who has acted as a go-between for the family is married to a woman whose sister is one of the family group.

The family speaks an old version of Pintupi, which is a well-documented aboriginal language.

Mr Clyde Holding, the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, who is expected to meet the family later this week, said on Tuesday that steps were being taken to ease the cultural shock and to minimize health risks to the family.

Two quit Prague embassy

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Bonn has announced that two East Germans who had taken refuge in the West German Embassy in Prague returned home in Tuesday, without apparently obtaining guarantees they would subsequently be allowed to emigrate to the West. Negotiations are still going on over the fate of the remaining

140 or so refugees in the embassy, but there are signs that a gradual end to the occupation may be in sight. The East German authorities are reported to have given permission to a woman who is eight months pregnant to leave for the West to have her baby there.

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مكتوم الأهم

Walesa asks Jaruzelski to step up search for pro-Solidarity priest

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Lech Walesa and the underground leaders of Solidarity yesterday pressed General Jaruzelski's government to step up its search for the kidnapped priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, declaring that "individual terrorism and blackmail have become a permanent instrument of political struggle" in Poland.

As Mr Walesa released his statement, it became clear that some workers wanted to exert other, perhaps more dangerous pressure on the authorities. A leaflet passed from hand to hand among parishioners at Father Popieluszko's church, announced: "We call upon Warsaw factories who owe Father Jerzy so much that from October 25 they should put themselves on strike alert and, if he does not return, they should stage strikes in the pre-arranged forms, from Monday. Give us back our Father Jerzy."

Helicopters flew over the Warsaw steel works and police units stood by after reports that a group of workers might walk to the church of Father Popieluszko, but attempts to organize a march failed and the workers dispersed quietly and without police intervention.

The leaflet circulated in the church was signed by the Workers' Solidarity Committee of the Warsaw steelworks, but some workers at the

plant said they were unsure of the authenticity of the appeal. "It might just be a provocation," one said. "Somebody is trying to sow chaos out of chaos."

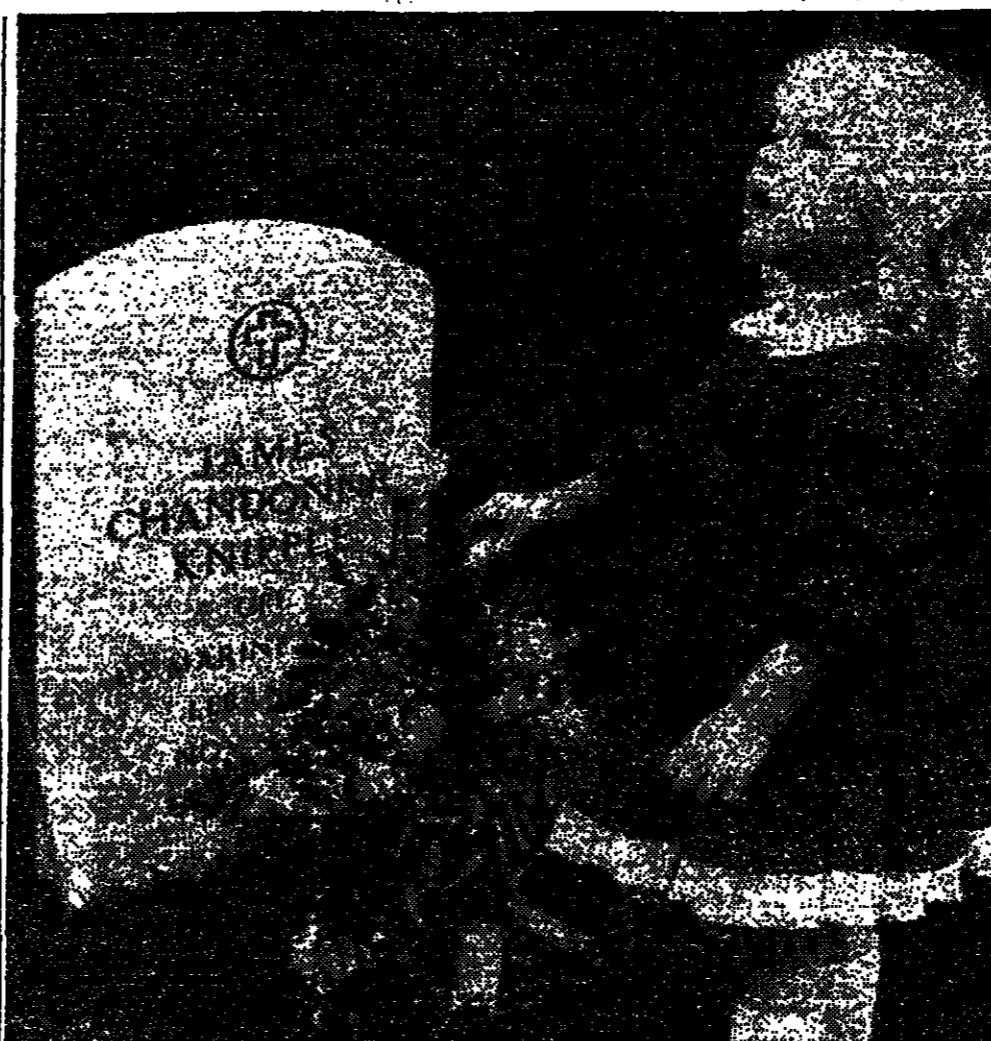
The question of who that "somebody" is, of who is behind last Friday's kidnapping of the Solidarity priest, is dominating the thoughts of the Government, Solidarity and the church.

Solidarity seems in little doubt that the culprits are either disgruntled members of the security services or are at least sheltered by sympathetic, hardline elements in the police.

Mr Walesa's statement, drawn up after he met in secret on Monday with the leaders of Solidarity, said: "In a country where law is continuously and commonly violated, where security forces serve exclusively the interests of the authorities and are not subject to any social control, every incident like this can bring about unimaginable results."

The police have detained five people, including a member of the Interior Ministry, who live near the scene of the abduction and who drive cars similar to that used by the kidnappers.

There is no hint that any of those detained is involved in the abduction and many Poles believe that the round-up is simply a way of showing the public that the police are doing



Honouring the victims of terrorism

Elizabeth Reinger, aged two, who was among several children who placed flowers on graves in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, on Tuesday. They were honouring American victims of terrorism worldwide, including Marine Corporal James Knipple, who died in the bombing of US Marine Headquarters in Beirut a year ago.

Times man stands by world chess attack

By David Cross

Mr Harry Golombek, the Chess Correspondent of *The Times*, yesterday rejected claims by the International Chess Federation (Fide) that he had written "scurrilous and unfounded" statements about the world championship in Moscow.

"Something abnormal is happening," Mr Golombek said. "What my critics fail to explain is why Kasparov is playing in a style totally unprecedented for him in which he embarks on attacks without due preparation - a procedure which he has never before adopted."

"They also fail to explain why he is adopting lines of play and openings which are familiar to Karpov and not at all the type of opening he himself has played before."

In a letter to *The Times*, Señor Florencio Campomanes, the president of Fide, said that "any suggestion that either player is being driven by external pressures into consciously substandard play is absurd and ridiculous. The reality is that Karpov, the world champion, is producing chess of a very high standard, and his challenger, Kasparov, though less a success hitherto, has fought and given of his best."

Señor Campomanes was responding to an article in *The Times* on October 13, in which Mr Golombek suggested that Kasparov, who is now trailing Karpov 4-0 after 16 games, might have been told to throw the match deliberately on the

Another draw

Seventeenth game
White Karpov, Black Kasparov

1 K-KB3 P-Q4 2 P-Q4 K-KB3
3 B-B5 P-QB4 4 P-B4 B-B5
5 B-B5 P-KB2 6 P-B4 B-B5
7 P-K3 P-QB2 8 P-B4 B-B5
9 Q-Q2 Q-K2-Q2 10 R-B1 P-B4
11 P-B4 P-B4 12 P-B4 P-B4
13 K-K3 BxK1 14 PxP KxP
15 P-QR4 K-K5 16 B-B7 Q-K1
17 P-QR4 P-QR4 18 B-B7 P-KB3
19 P-B4 P-B4 20 P-B4 P-B4
21 Q-Q4 BxP 22 Q-Q4 BxP
Draw agreed.

Flick cash gifts denied by Barzel

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

In keenly-awaited testimony that could prove decisive for his political career, Herr Rainer Barzel, the speaker of the Bundestag, told a special parliamentary committee yesterday that he had received no money from the Flick concern, and that sums paid him by a Frankfurt law firm between 1973 and '82 did not correspond to the money paid to the firm by Flick.

Herr Barzel also denied the "infamous" suggestion that Flick money had played any role in his decision to resign as chairman of the Christian Democratic Union, in 1973. Last week, a Green member of Parliament was ejected from the Bundestag for suggesting that Flick had "bought" the way clear for Herr Helmut Kohl to take over as CDU chairman in 1973.

Revelations that Herr Barzel received a total of some DM 1.7m (about £455,000) from the Frankfurt lawyer, Herr Albert Paul, who had close dealings with Flick, have shaken the Christian Democratic Party, which was paying Herr Barzel a special supplementary salary after his resignation.

Herr Barzel is under strong pressure from his own party to resign immediately to limit the damage the scandal is doing to the CDU in the public's estimation. The repercussions may have a serious effect on the party's standing in local elections in Baden-Württemberg on Sunday.

Herr Barzel has had to give a lengthy account of his income and relations with Flick to the party's presidium already, and leading politicians were markedly cool towards him.

Herr Kohl in among those who have spoken of a "slander campaign" but has refused to come to Herr Barzel's defence.

Embryo doubts

Sydney (AP) - Scientists doubted if the two "orphaned" frozen embryos, whose lives were saved on Tuesday by Victoria State's upper house of parliament, would survive thawing. But they promised to make every effort to implant them in one of the 90 women, mostly American, seeking their adoption.

Reunion blaze

Manila (AP) - Eight people were killed in a fire that destroyed an hotel in Baguio where 200 American Second World War veterans had gathered for a reunion. Two of the victims were identified as Americans, the others were too charred for recognition.

Trial stopped

Cairo (AFP) - Egypt's state security court, accepting a prosecution request, halted the trial of 176 Islamic fundamentalists, members of the al-Jihad (Holy War) organization and ordered their release from detention. The trial opened in February.

Tanker inferno

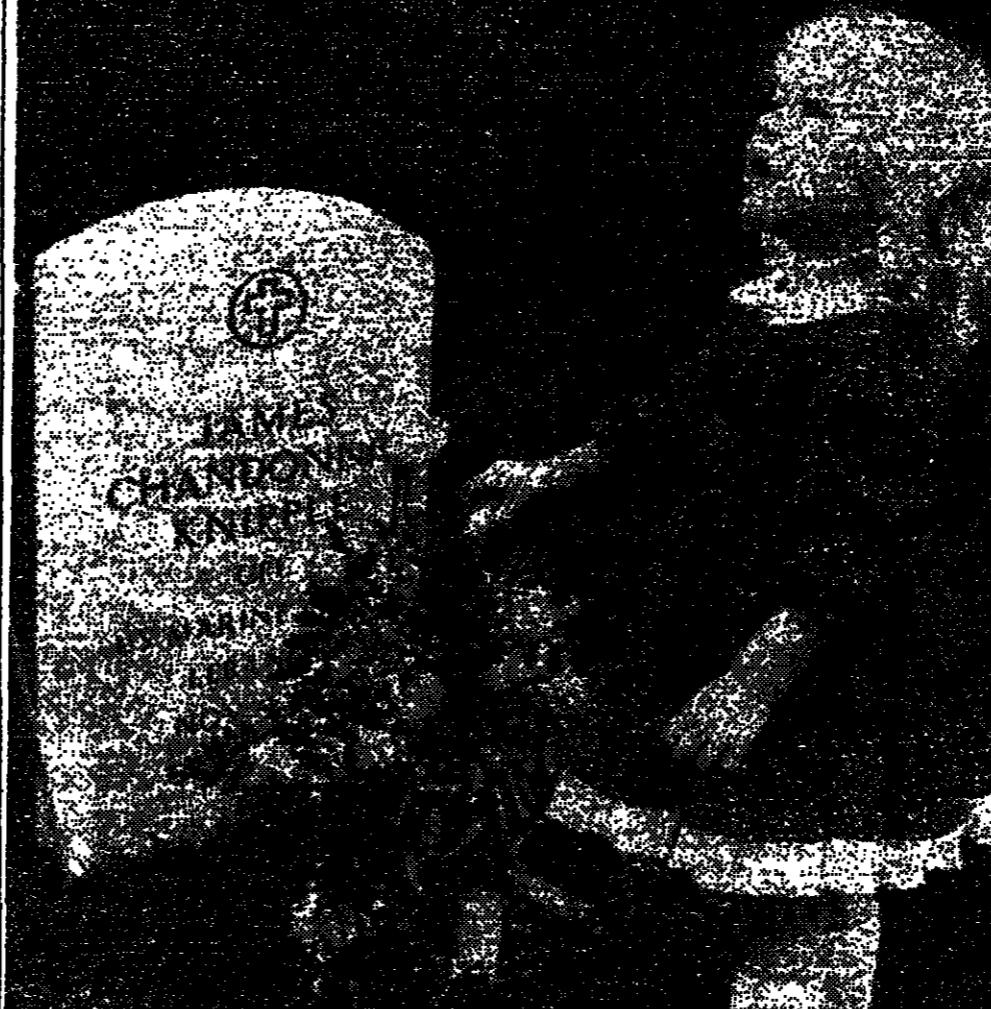
Bombay (Reuters) - Three people died and four were badly burnt when an Indian oil tanker, the 28,812-ton Lajpat Rai, caught fire here. At least seven more people were feared trapped inside.

Flood deaths

Bangkok (AFP) - Five people have died in floods affecting Cambodia's provinces of Kompong Chhnang and Kratie, damaging 96,124 acres of rice and 101,894 acres of other food crops.

Oh Calcutta!

Calcutta (AP) - After years of delays and financial problems, India's first underground railway system began limited commercial service in Calcutta. A four coach train carried 1,000 passengers on a two-mile maiden run.



Honouring the victims of terrorism

Elizabeth Reinger, aged two, who was among several children who placed flowers on graves in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, on Tuesday. They were honouring American victims of terrorism worldwide, including Marine Corporal James Knipple, who died in the bombing of US Marine Headquarters in Beirut a year ago.

Israel fears unrest as economy reels

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem

As talks started last night to try to secure union approval for Israel's toughest austerity package yet, there were reports that police were drawing up plans to tackle possible disorder arising from the rapidly deteriorating economic situation.

With inflation approaching 1,000 per cent, the package is designed to reduce the amount wages are cushioned against inflation by nearly 30 per cent, to trim the budget by a further \$500m (£410m) and reduce public sector employment by 10 per cent, putting 14,000 out of work.

Less than 24 hours before the negotiations opened in an atmosphere of crisis, there was a stampede in food stores as shoppers stripped shelves after hearing news of the latest planned subsidy cut - the second in less than two months - which means a 34 per cent jump in the price of basic food stuffs and petrol.

Earlier, Mr Yitzhak Modai, the Finance Minister, asked a parliamentary committee to approve a \$24m allocation for food subsidies for October alone. He disclosed that the entire subsidy budget for the fiscal year 1984/5 had been used up already.

Some staple products have risen in price by more than 100 per cent since August and there are fears in official circles that there could be riots if things get worse as more Israelis are put out of work because of the austerity measures.

The latest round of subsidy cuts angered leaders of the Histadrut, the national labour federation, whose chairman, Mr Yisrael Kesser, accused the Government of "joining the chorus of price-gougers".

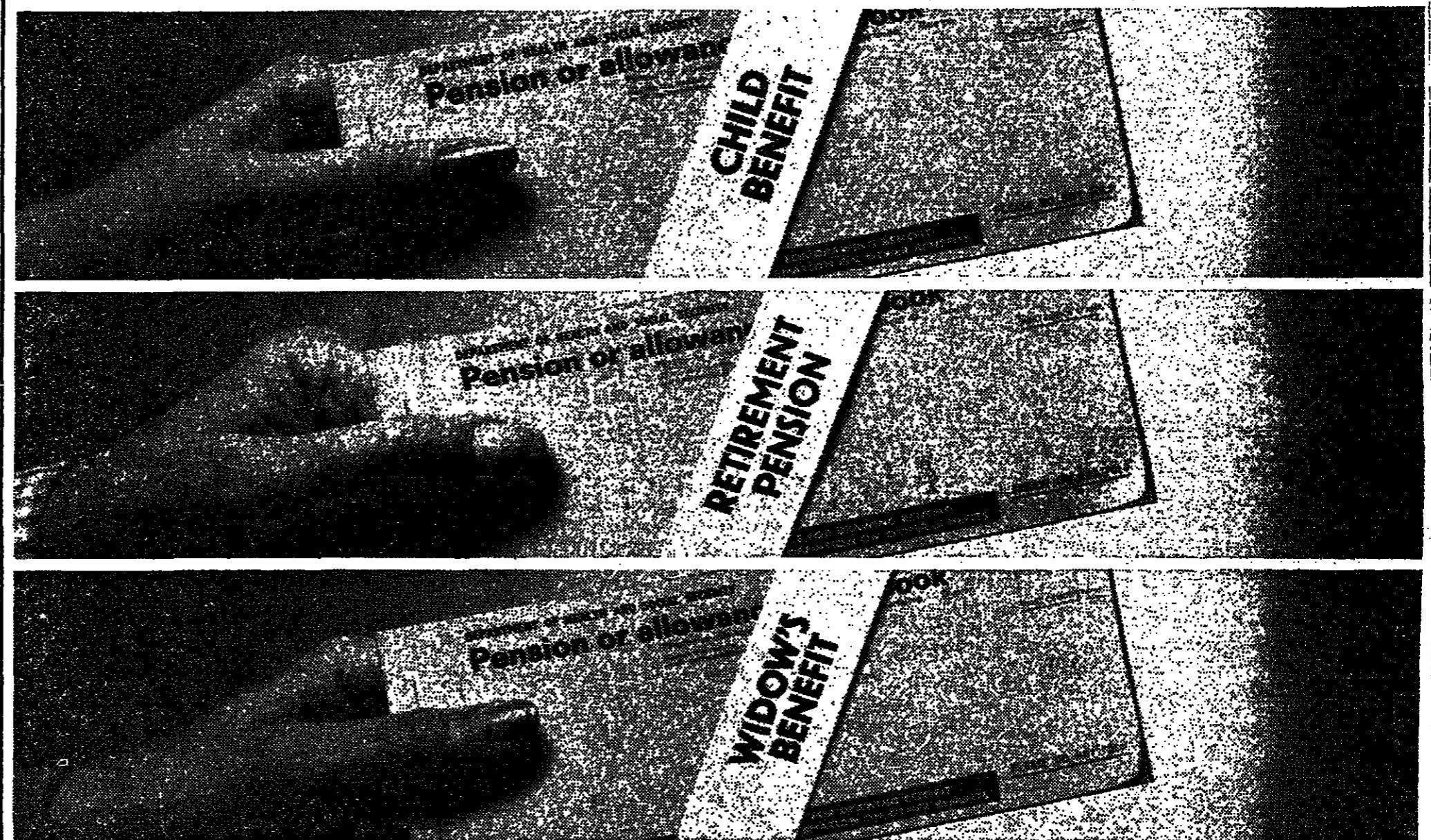
FAMILY FORTUNES

Comparative cost of an assortment of goods including housing costs for an average occupied household of 3-4 people, calculated against the base of the monthly average for 1980, which came to \$3,680 shillings.

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Sept 1981	\$3,680	\$3,680	\$3,680	\$3,680	\$3,680
Sept 1982		200	200	200	200
Sept 1983		200	200	200	200
Aug 1984		215,500	215,500	215,500	215,500
Sept 1984		257,000	257,000	257,000	257,000

Source: Israeli Department of Statistics

Yesterday the shekel's exchange rate was 555 to the pound.



How you'll get your increases during DHSS industrial action.

From the week commencing November 26th, Retirement Pensions, Widow's Benefits and Child Benefit will increase.

If you are paid by order book we'd normally issue you with a new book showing the increased rates.

Unfortunately, due to industrial action at the DHSS computer centres in Newcastle, many people will not get their new books in time.

We've therefore made special arrangements for those affected to get the new rates.

RETIREMENT PENSIONERS AND WIDOWS.

Please ignore this notice if you have a pension book which still has orders in it. Just continue to cash them as they become due.

If you are still being paid on your old order book, continue to call at the post office for emergency payments.

During October and November, post offices will be attaching new covers to the front of these books when they are pre-

sented for payment. These covers will show the new rate of benefit.

If a new cover has not been attached to your book by November 19th, send or take your book to your local social security office, with a note explaining that you need a new front cover.

IF YOU RECEIVE CHILD BENEFIT.

Please ignore this notice if your order book contains orders dated November 26th or later which show the new rate of £6.85 per child.

Continue to cash the orders as they become due.

If your order book has already run out but you are still being paid on it, continue to call at the post office for emergency payments.

If your present book has some orders in it but they run out before November 26th, you may need to obtain emergency payments on the expired book until your new book arrives.

During October and November, post offices will be attaching new front

covers to the front of order books which do not already show the new rates, when they are presented for payment.

These covers will show the new rate of benefit.

If a new cover has not been attached to your book by November 20th (December 4th if you are paid 4-weekly), send or take your book to your local social security office, with a note explaining that you need a new front cover.

You can ignore this notice if you are paid by some method other than an order book. Further information will be given later if it is necessary for you to take special action.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the industrial action. Together with the Post Office we'll do all we can to see that you continue to get your benefit on time.

If for any reason you think that the wrong rate of benefit is being paid to you, check with your local social security office.

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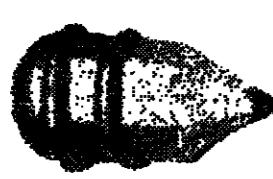
Tailors draw
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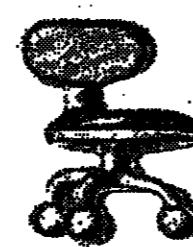
Helps band leaders
call better tunes.



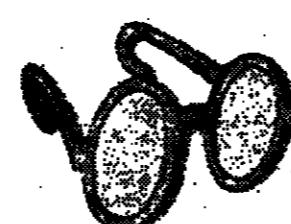
Helps firemen
go to blazes.



Editors cut
editing time.



It doesn't dictate
to secretaries.



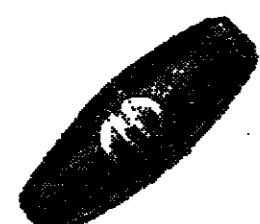
Opticians see
sales forecasts with it.



Helps farmers
plough profits back.



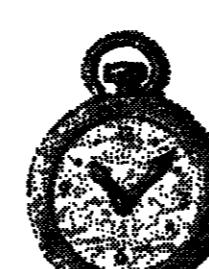
Takes risks out
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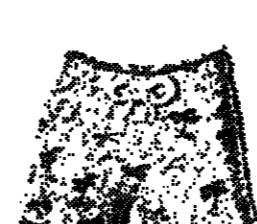
Generals could
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Conjurors
try tricks on it.



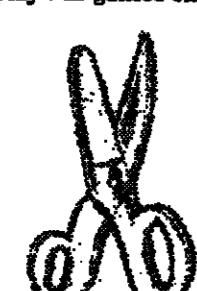
Watchmakers tick off
their accounts.



Resort managers
resort to it for scheduling.



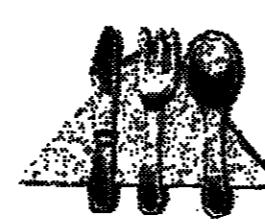
Gym owners keep
their books in shape.



Hairdressers
cut costs with it.



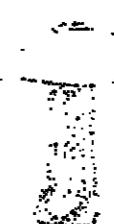
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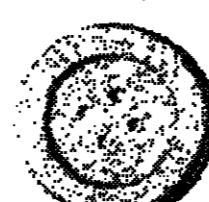
Telephones
talk to it.



Auctioneers hammer out
accounts on it.



Museum curators
collate on it.



Haberdashers do VAT
with more dash.



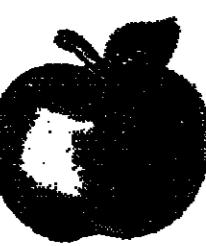
School children
learn from it.



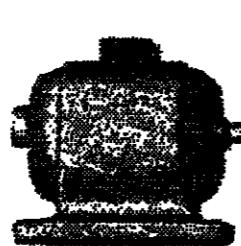
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Gorbachov loses control of agriculture but emerges unscathed

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The long-awaited party plenum, which convened on Tuesday after weeks of rumour and counter-rumour, has made it clear that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov is no longer in charge of agriculture, but has failed to clarify the Kremlin power struggle.

Contrary to assurances by party officials no personnel changes were announced and all eyes are on the next winter plenum to be held next month or in early December.

The main speeches at the plenum on agriculture which occupied nearly four full pages of *Pravda* yesterday, came from President Chernenko and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister. Mr Gorbachov, the Kremlin number two and heir-apparent, did not speak even though he has been responsible for agriculture in the politburo since 1980.

Observers said the party rank and file would not necessarily read this as a demonstration since Mr Gorbachov had acquired widowers as number two in the party hierarchy and might be glad to relinquish the burden of farm policy, the traditional quagmire of Soviet politics.

No new agriculture secretary was appointed at the plenum, which was called to examine the poor state of Soviet agriculture. This year's harvest is expected to be only 170 million tonnes. 70

million tonnes below target and one of the worst grain harvests in a dismal decade.

Mr Chernenko announced a big land improvement scheme designed to increase the amount of cultivated soil available by the end of the century. He and Mr Tikhonov spelt out new irrigation and drainage methods, and urged the use of new technology to increase crop yields.

Mr Chernenko described the period since the Brezhnev food programme was adopted in May 1982 as fruitful, but added: "Despite the positive results, the problem of providing many Russians with foodstuffs - above all, meat - remains acute." Agricultural production lagged far behind requirements, the Soviet leader said, blaming Mr Valentin Mesyats, the Agriculture Minister, and the Russian climate.

There was no suggestion of reforming the collective farm system, however, and no discussion of the "contract brigade" system of payment by results associated with Mr Gorbachov.

A Kremlin watcher said: "It is hard to believe the Central Committee was convened just to talk about drainage and fertilizers."

The plenum, which appears to be a factor in the struggle to succeed Mr Chernenko, remained shrouded in mystery to

Townships quiet but tense

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Police were still patrolling the streets of the troubled Vaal river townships of Sharpeville, Sebokeng and Boipatong yesterday after Tuesday's huge dragnet operation by a combined force of 7,000 heavily armed troops and police.

By Tuesday night, the Army, never previously deployed so openly and on such a scale to quell internal unrest except under martial law, had been withdrawn, but it was believed to be in the vicinity in case it should be needed again.

The mood in the townships, about 40 miles south of here, was described by residents as tense and sullen, but otherwise quiet. Schools were almost all empty, with more than 90,000 pupils in the region either deliberately boycotting classes

or under pressure not to turn up.

Police said 358 people were arrested on Tuesday, 348 in Sebokeng and only 10 in Sharpeville and Boipatong.

Most had been charged with minor criminal offences or

infringements of the pass laws, which control the movement of Africans outside the tribal reserves.

Few, if any, of those caught in the police net qualify, even in South African terms, as "revolutionaries", whose unearthing was said by Mr Louis le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order, to be one of the main objectives of the operation, codenamed Bullrush.

The United Nations Security Council passed a resolution condemning Pretoria's recent crackdown on black unrest.

The searches and interrogations were carried out with as much courtesy as is possible

in the circumstances.

Mr NEW YORK: In a speech

intended to rally South Africa's white rulers as well as its black majority, Bishop Desmond Tutu, the winner of this year's Nobel Prize, made an impassioned appeal here for the end of the politics of exclusion in his country and the eradication without violence of apartheid (Zoriana Pysarowsky writes).

In Portland, Oregon, two

dozen protesters slipped through.

The Reagan camp

later treated the diversion from

the campaign script with dire

seriousness. Mr James Lake,

Press Secretary for the Reagan

campaign, said the heckling

was organized by an anti-Reagan

coalition and reflected "a

certain amount of desperation

on the part of partisans of the

opposition".

They were instantly

swamped by placards reading:

"Reagan". Mr Reagan at first

sought to ignore them. "Two

more weeks," the protesters

yelled. "Four more years,"

came back the theme chant of

the Reagan campaign.

It said: "One last thought,

shouldn't someone tag

Mr Kennedy's bold new imaginative

programme with it's (sic)

proper age? Under the rotted

boistful haircut, it is still old

Karl Marx - first launched a

century ago. There is nothing

new in the idea of a government

being Big Brother to us all.

Hitler called his "state socialism"

and way before him it was

"benevolent monarchy".

Mr Reagan said: "I may just

let Mondale raise his taxes."

The hubbub persisted. "You

are nothing wrong with it."

With less than a fortnight to

go, the campaign is getting

dirtier and more personalized.

Mr Mondale, speaking in

Ohio, quoted from a recently

unearthed letter written by Mr

Reagan to Mr Richard Nixon in 1960 likening John Kennedy's ideas to those of Karl

Marx and Adolf Hitler.

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are nothing wrong with it."

Ethnic voters: The Italians

Pizza parlours to halls of power

From Nicholas Ashford
New York

Italian-American population

12.2 million.

Main areas of concentration
New York (2.8m), New Jersey (1.3m), Pennsylvania (1.2m), California (1.1m), Massachusetts (750,000).

Prominent Italian-American politicians - Mario Cuomo, Governor of New York; Richard Celeste, Governor of Ohio; Senator Alphonse D'Amato (R, New York); Senator Dennis DeConcini (D, Arizona); Senator Pete Domenici (R, New Mexico).

such as New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, California and Illinois which a presidential candidate needs to capture to win the election, both parties have been busily courting the Italian-American vote this year.

The appointment of Ms Geraldine Ferraro as the Democratic Party's vice-presidential candidate has done much to scotch that image. "She has shown that Italian-American women don't just raise families and cook spaghetti", Mrs Paula Carricola, a constituent from Ms Ferraro's Queens district of New York, and an outspoken admirer of the three-term congresswoman, said.

President Reagan has also been busily wooing Italian-Americans, visiting traditional Italian-American areas, attending Italian-American functions and going out of his way to praise cooperation with the Italian Government on issues such as Lebanon, the deployment of cruise missiles and the freeing of General James Dozier from the Red Brigades.

There are 33 Italian-American members of Congress (including four senators) and two state governors - Mario Cuomo of New York and Richard Celeste of Ohio. Although they are predominantly Democratic and mainly represent industrial areas, they include a number of prominent Republicans.

For years Italian-Americans were considered voting fodder for the Democratic Party and they helped provide it with its huge built-in majorities in the industrial states of the north-east.

However, assimilation, increasing affluence and the drift away from city centres to the suburbs have dramatically changed voting patterns in recent years. Little Italy has moved to Long Island, and its residents have taken on conservative middle-class American values.

In the 1976 presidential election Mr Jimmy Carter outvoted President Ford among Italian-Americans by 12 percentage points. Four years later, figures were reversed.

Conscious of their voting power, particularly in key states

such as New Jersey, New York, Illinois and Pennsylvania, Italian-Americans are no longer to be taken for granted.

"I think some Italian-Americans can vote for her on ethnic grounds, but most will vote for who they think will do the best job regardless of their background", Mr Fred Rotondaro, the foundation's president, said.

Although conscious and proud of their Italian identity "we are Americans first and foremost and will vote just as other Americans vote".

Officers inquire



Spain need not join Nato's military arm, Gonzalez says

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain has to remain a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization but does not need to join its military structures, Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, said here last night when he revealed the most important foreign policy decision of his Government which now almost two years old.

The Spanish people will be given chance to approve or reject the Socialist Government's line in a referendum, he promised, probably in February 1986. This is almost a year later than he once suggested, evidently to provide the chance to "educate" Spaniards, most of whom, according to polls, favour leaving Nato completely.

Next year is supposed to be devoted to that process as Spain's integration into the EEC, beginning in 1986, is also supposed simultaneously to be sinking into the national consciousness.

The announcement, after months of governmental ambiguity, will inevitably disappoint other Nato members and leave Spanish military leaders out on a limb. Since their country joined the political side of the alliance more than two years ago, they have come to see its benefits in terms of modernization.

Paupers and President on show for Princess

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Princess Anne, visiting Bangladesh to tour four Children Fund projects, came face to face with some of the most unhappy of the poorest people in the country yesterday. They were those men, women and children who were paralysed by having broken backs or necks.

In a country where the best of the social services can do is to provide food for work, those paralysed like the inmates of the centre in Dhaka which she visited are usually condemned to a life of pitiful charity from their relatives. Standards of care are so low that many die from simple bedsores, and some tiny children, especially girls, are just abandoned.

Don't ask whether they fell from trees, the Director of the rehabilitation centre, Miss Valeria Taylor, said to the Princess, "ask what kind of tree they fell from." Most of the people in the beds of the centre fell while gathering fruit or fodder, although some have been injured by luggage being tossed from the top of a bus, or from carrying an extra heavy load of rice on their heads, which falls and snaps their necks. Two patients there yesterday had been injured by a charging bull.

The happiest of the patients in the centre was eight-year-old Jyoti, struggling to walk using parallel bars. With a pink ribbon in her hair and a yellow lorry, she was showing off skills acquired since she has been adopted by Miss Taylor. Jyoti was abandoned by her parents outside the gate of a Cheshire

Officers named in Aquino inquiry go on leave

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The head of the Philippines' armed forces and the Manila police chief yesterday took temporary leave after they were linked by a commission of inquiry to the murder last year of the opposition leader, Benigno Aquino.

They were among 26 people named in the final 475-page report of four commission members who conducted a 10-months inquiry into the killing.

The fifth member of the commission, Mrs Corazon Agravia, the chairman, in a dissenting report on Tuesday, exonerated General Fabian Ver, the armed forces Chief of Staff, of complicity in the plot. Neither did she include Major-General Prospero Olivas, the

THE STYLE IS VINTAGE BUT NOT THE PRICE



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Our men in Libya to be replaced

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr George Anderson, who has been in charge of the British interests section in Libya since relations between the two countries were broken in April, is to return for leave and a fresh posting soon. The Foreign Office said last night.

He is being succeeded by Mr Hugh Dunnachie, aged 39, whose foreign posting was in The Hague. A second appointment to replace Mr Redmond Norton, who returned from the section recently, will be announced soon.

The chief responsibility of the section remains the welfare of a number of Britons in custody in Libya, particularly four men detained without trial. There was no change in their position last night, although they receive visits from relatives and friends.

Gairy's past threatens island future

In the second of two articles on Grenada after the US invasion, Christopher Thomas reprints on the parties contesting the election on December 3.

In a large, pink house near the Governor-General's residence above St George's, Sir Eric Gairy holds court. The paint-work is peeling, the guards are dozing in the dripping tropical heat, the iron gate is locked shut. The heavy silence belies the intensity of a comeback battle being waged by the white-suited man within.

When Sir Eric was Prime Minister of Grenada a lot of people were hurt by a group of thugs known as the MongOOSE Gang. Sir Eric rejects the conventional belief that they were his bodyguards, his private security force, his paid enforcers. Or, indeed, that they existed at all.

"If you happen to find one person that was really and truly a secret police, a Mongoose

GRENADA Part 2

secret police, or any type of secret police, paid by myself or by my Government I'll give you half my properties," he promised.

"I mean, the whole thing was a myth and it was well packaged I would say and it went around the world nicely. I would have believed it myself if I did not know myself as well as I did. I take my hat off to the communists."

Actually, it is not the communists who are trying to



US choice: Mr Blaize, leader of the coalition against Gulp, speaks to the people.

blacken Sir Eric's name. It is the Americans. The United States and most neighbouring Caribbean countries positively dread the eccentric Sir Eric regaining power. "It would be mad in our eyes," a senior US official said. "We would have to re-evaluate our policies."

That would mean ending aid funds, a threat that is being heard from Washington to St George's in an unusable attempt to scuttle Sir Eric and his Grenada United Labour Party (Gulp). The threat is probably empty. The US has committed

itself too deeply to quit now. But the election of the ultra-right Sir Eric would create uncertainty in Washington and might prevent the development of long-term aid projects.

The fear is that Sir Eric's style of leadership would create a left-wing backlash and another one. He was in New York to deliver his celebrated speech to the United Nations about UFOs when the leftist Maurice Bishop seized power on March 13, 1979.

Some of the late Mr Bishop's supporters still have guns

hidden away, which is why Sir Eric rarely moves from his rented, pink house. The campaign comes to him in long processions, day and night. He is not personally seeking one of the 15 parliamentary seats, doubtless because he wants to see how Gulp fares. If it does well he is expected to arrange a by-election for himself.

It is "the measures" that worry the US. Deny it as they do, there is no doubt that the Americans were influential in bringing about a coalition of

political groups in Grenada to fight Sir Eric, whose party is undoubtedly the single most popular party on the island.

Mr Blaize, leader of the coalition, is a popular figure among the middle classes: his performance as Prime Minister of Grenada in the 1960s is remembered both in London and Washington as competent, particularly in economic management. He lives 30 miles away on the sleepy Grenadian island of Carriacou.

Concluded

Little cheer for Zambia after first 20 years

From Alfred Sayila
Lusaka

President Kaunda yesterday marked Zambia's 20 years of independence by laying the foundation stone of the new party headquarters in Independence Avenue, which will be built by the Chinese.

After two decades of self-rule, the country is undergoing one of its worst economic crises which seriously threatens its stability and the leadership. Debts are estimated at more than 4 billion Kwacha (£1.7 billion), foreign exchange reserves are almost exhausted and the nation has overdrawn its account with most, if not all, the commercial banks and financial institutions.

Since President Kaunda created a one-party state in 1972, corruption and inefficiency have produced a credibility gap between the party and people. There is a shortage of essentials such as milk, bread, cooking oil, soap and fuel.

Zambia has fared better in the industrial sector than in agriculture, where much has to be done before it can become self-sufficient in food.

Nevertheless, independence has been celebrated in style. Among the foreign heads of state in Lusaka yesterday were President Nyerere of Tanzania, President Machel of Mozambique, President Masire of Botswana, President Dos Santos of Angola, President Moi of Kenya and Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister.

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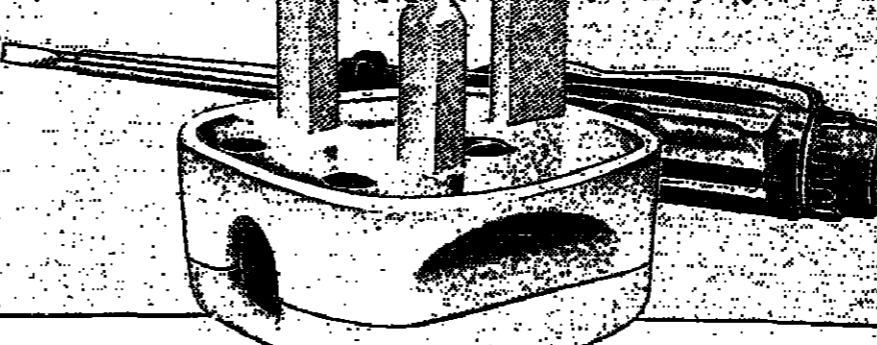
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Slip rule does not save order without jurisdiction

Munks v Munks and Another
Before Lord Justice Parker and Sir
Roger Ormrod
(Judgment delivered October 24)

An order made without jurisdiction which one party was entitled to have set aside could not possibly be saved by the "slip rule" [Order 20, rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court] or by the inherent jurisdiction of the court.

Although an order of a court of competent jurisdiction which was good on its face had to be treated as a valid order until it had been set aside, once the court's attention had been brought to the fact that the order was made without jurisdiction there was no alternative but to set it aside.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the wife, Majorie Anne Munks, from the judgment of Mr Justice Ewbank on May 2, 1984, who had amended a consent order made by a registrar on

February 9, 1973 before the decree nisi which purported to dismiss all the wife's claims for ancillary relief against her husband, Harold Rae Munks.

Mr Christopher Metcalf for the wife, Mr Christopher Butler for the husband.

SIR ROGER ORMROD, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that the marriage had been dissolved by decree absolute on May 4, 1983, on the husband's petition under section 1(2) (a) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973. On September 12, 1983, the wife's solicitors issued a notice of application for ancillary relief under sections 23 and 24 of the 1973 Act.

The husband raised the point of *res judicata*, on the basis of the consent order made on February 9, 1973, which purported to dismiss all the wife's claims for ancillary relief. The order also provided for the transfer of a car to the wife, the handing over

to her of her personal belongings and a bar on any application by her under the Inheritance Act 1975.

In reply, the wife contended that that consent order was "invalid" or "ineffective" for want of jurisdiction, since the registrar had made it before the decree nisi, pronounced on February 17, 1983.

The husband contended that the wife's only remedy was to appeal against the consent order or to challenge it by judicial review.

Mr Justice Ewbank, dealing with the matter as a preliminary issue, decided that the order as it stood was invalid because the power of the court to make orders for financial provision under sections 23 and 24 of the 1973 Act arose "on granting a decree of divorce... or at any time thereafter".

However, he decided that the order could be corrected under the "slip rule" by amending the date of the consent order to February 17, 1983.

to the date of the decree nisi. Given the wife's agreement to have given her consent freely and after taking legal advice, it was appropriate to make the amendment under the slip rule.

It was clear, his Lordship said, that the proceedings had got into a series of procedural tangles which had to be unravelled. There was no doubt that the registrar had had no jurisdiction to make the consent order because it was made before the decree nisi. However, it was well established that an order of the court of competent jurisdiction which was good on its face had to be treated as a valid order until it had been set aside: see *Isaac v Robertson* ([1984] 3 WLR 705).

However, the wife's remedy was not by way of appeal or judicial review, but by the husband's consent. Now, as the husband had consented, could the order be ignored? Moreover, an order made without jurisdiction, which one party was entitled ex *direc*to* *justitia** [as a master of right]

to have set aside, could not possibly be saved by the "slip rule" or by the inherent jurisdiction.

Once the court's attention was brought to the fact that the order was made without jurisdiction, there was no alternative but to set it aside.

The fact that the order had been acted upon was irrelevant: it was well settled that jurisdiction could not be conferred by consent or estoppel. Moreover, any person who might be affected by such an order was entitled as of right to have it set aside.

From a practical point of view, the best course was therefore to allow the appeal and discharge the order of February 9, 1983, for "irregularity". It appeared to be a case of one technicality cancelling out another.

Solicitors: Gilbert Blaize, Lincoln; Roythorne & Co. Spalding.

Special commissioners can adjust corporation tax assessment

Owton Fens Properties Ltd v
Reidin (Inspector of Taxes)
Before Mr Justice Vineolet
(Judgment delivered October 23)

An assessment to corporation tax, in computing the total profits of a company, misdescribed the source of that company's income, could be adjusted and increased, to take into account different kinds of income arising from other sources.

Mr Justice Vineolet so held, in the Chancery Division, in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer company, Owton Fens Properties Ltd, from the special commissioners' determination that an assessment to corporation tax made on 10th January 1973, prior to March 1973, and stated to be in respect of "building society interest and dividends", was not an invalid assessment and should be adjusted notwithstanding that the company's only taxable

income for the relevant period was of a different kind.

In November 1973 an estimated assessment to corporation tax of £8,000 was raised on the taxpayer company erroneously showing a figure on the prescribed CT4 form against the heading "building society interest and dividends". The figure should have been shown against the heading "dividends". Additionally the form did not show a sum in respect of chargeable gains which were itemised under the headings on that form and that although section 50(7) of the Taxes Management Act 1970 enabled the commissioners on appeal to increase the amount of income from a specified source, it did not enable them to add income from a new source. Accordingly it was the taxpayer company's case that the assessment was bad and should be discharged. The commissioners declined to do so and increased the amount of the assessment to £31,634.

The taxpayer company immediately appealed against the assessment on the ground that the assessment did not accord with the account or information that was shortly to be sent to the tax inspector and which showed that the amount of the assessment to corporation tax should be £28,406.

The matter then came to rest for some years, the estimated assessment remaining open and undetermined. In May 1983 the appeal came before the commissioners for hearing when the taxpayer company contended that under section 250 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 (ICTA 1970) an assessment to corporation tax on the prescribed form CT4 could only relate to tax on income or gains which were itemised under the

heads on that form and that although section 50(7) of the Taxes Management Act 1970 enabled the commissioners on appeal to increase the amount of income from a specified source, it did not enable them to add income from a new source. Accordingly it was the taxpayer company's case that the assessment was bad and should be discharged. The commissioners declined to do so and increased the amount of the assessment to £31,634.

Section 250(3) of the ICTA 1970 provided that for the purposes of corporation tax income should be computed, and the assessment should be made, under the like Schedule and Cases as applied to those Schedules and Cases, but "the amounts so computed for the several sources of income, if more than one, together with any amount to be included in respect of chargeable gains which were itemised under the heads on that form and that although section 50(7) of the Taxes Management Act 1970 enabled the commissioners on appeal to increase the amount of income from a specified source, it did not enable them to add income from a new source. Accordingly it was the taxpayer company's case that the assessment was bad and should be discharged. The commissioners declined to do so and increased the amount of the assessment to £31,634.

Mr C. W. Koenigsberger for the taxpayer company: Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE VINEOLET said that the short answer to the taxpayer company's case was that the ICTA 1970 sections 258, 246, 247 and 250 required that in the case of a company all chargeable income and chargeable gains for a given accounting period be computed in one assessment. An appeal against

that was an appeal against the amount of corporation tax in an assessment.

Once an appeal was lodged the assessment was at large until determined by the commissioners under section 50(6) of the Taxes Management Act 1970. In the case of a corporation tax assessment it was the amount of total profits for the relevant period that was under appeal.

If the taxpayer company was right

a specific source of income had to be determined and no authority could exist for bringing before the commissioners the whole amount of corporation tax. Nor would there be machinery for determining, for example, group relief.

The commissioners' determination was correct and the appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Tilly Bailey & Irvine, Hartlepool. Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

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a specific source of income had to be determined and no authority could exist for bringing before the commissioners the whole amount of corporation tax. Nor would there be machinery for determining, for example, group relief.

The lessor now claimed that the effect of the erection of the clubhouse and the laying out of the golf course had to be taken into account in establishing the open market rental value under clause 4 of the 1978 lease.

The lessee contended that any relevant improvements made to the clubhouse and the effect on rent of the clubhouse and

When addition to property not in rent review

Brett v The Brett Essex Golf Club Ltd
Before Judge John Finlay, QC
(Judgment delivered October 19)

the laying out of the golf course; that the obligation in the 1973 lease to lay out the golf course had been discharged and the erection of the clubhouse was carried out, not pursuant to any obligation to the lessor under the 1973 lease, having regard to the lessee's mere permission.

His Lordship held that notwithstanding amendments to section 34 of the 1954 Act by the Law of Property Act 1969, the clubhouse did fail to be disregarded in determining the amount of rent under clause 4 of the 1978 lease.

Mr Timothy Jennings for the lessor; Mr Alan Steinfeld for the lessee.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the relevant words in clause 4 of the 1978 lease were that the expression "open market value" meant a sum in relation to the review period "determined in manner heretofore provided as being... the annual rental value of the demised premises... if not... a sum which the lessor has

complied with the obligation as to repair and decoration herein imposed on the tenant such lease being on the same terms and conditions... and disregarding (if applicable) those matters set out in paragraphs (a) (b) and (c) of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954".

The question that had arisen was whether that was a reference to the Act as originally enacted or as amended by section 1 of the Law of Property Act 1969.

The relevant paragraph, paragraph (c) of the 1954 Act, stated that

there was to be disregarded "any effect of the erection of the clubhouse and the laying out of the golf course, with liberty to the lessee to erect at its own expense a club house for the use of members and guests of the club".

The lease provided for a review of the yearly rent at stated intervals and was to the rent which the demised premises might reasonably be expected to fetch in the open market. The lessor disregarded (if applicable) the matters set out in section 34 (a) (b) and (c) of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.

Between about 1973 and 1977 the golf course was erected and in about

1975 the clubhouse was built.

In a further lease for 50 years from February 14, 1978, which effected a surrender by operation of law of the 1973 lease, it was provided in clause 4 that the open market rental value mentioned in the relevant review period was to be disregarded "if (applicable) of those matters set out in paragraphs (a) (b) and (c) of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954".

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THE ARTS

Theatre

Illuminating return to basics

Tramway Road
Lyric, Hammersmith

As a South African émigré who has done very nicely for himself in the old country, Ronald Harwood may not be an ideal commentator on the present realities of apartheid; but he is well placed to turn the tables on the self-righteous British and ask how courageous a showing we would have made as émigrés to Daniel Malan's lily-white fortress.

Tramway Road takes its title from a (now demolished) Coloured ghetto in the suburbs of Cape Town, and shows a middle-aged London couple undergoing a crisis of conscience in the year after the Population Registration Act, 1950.

Relating to the country as Harwood remembers it, the piece makes an illuminating return to basics, through the lives of two people who share the unthinking racial prejudices of the period, but who are unprepared for the new realities of apartheid.

The plot turns on the fate of Emil, a Cape Coloured boy, whose future depends on getting a travel grant to a London theatre school. It is well into the first act before we realize that he has any problem other than the vowels which his teacher, Arthur,

trying to bring up to RADA standards. The lesson has its tensions, as Arthur — a seedy old public-schoolmaster — doles on him as a substitute son; while Arthur's wife — a failed opera singer — resents the relationship as a *folie à deux* which is distracting Arthur from his own problems.

We then learn that Emil is about to undergo reclassification and once the lesson is over we never see him again. By the second act he has been declared a non-European and his chances of reaching London or even keeping his present job are torn away, and as an ultimate betrayal, Arthur has cruelly severed contact with his beloved protégé.

The quality of the play is extremely uneven. The first act is heavily diagrammatic, contrasting the enthusiastic teacher-pupil passes with the wife's brutal and narcissistic interruptions, so as to drive them into opposite corners. Arthur as a vain (and possibly homosexual) old silly and the *Alfakado*-singing mensahib as the verge of going bonkers.

These sledgehammer tactics leave you utterly unprepared for the delicacy and emotional control of the second act, where Arthur returns to the flat in a daze of guilt, panic and loss to be confronted by a wife who

firmly takes the boy's side, even though she never liked him.

Tramway Road is essentially a two-character play. In the presence of Emil or the black houseboy, it becomes crudely polarized. But, when the couple are left to themselves, the dialogue stops making authorial points and unfolds as naturally as breathing, conveying the shared sense of affection and resentment, a long-shared past of small failures, humiliations and exile, and the realization of two essentially kind people that kindness is not enough. "You are despicable", the wife finally declares at the climax of a drunken post-mortem on Arthur's treachery; and then kisses him on the top of the head.

David Jones's production deals tactfully with the play's incompatibilities, particularly in the casting of Richard E. Grant as Emil, a neutral figure who can be equally viewed through the eyes of either partner.

The couple themselves receive highly charged and rigorously unsentimentalized performances from Annette Crosbie and Freddie Jones: two confused little Englanders in print dress and crumpled alpaca encountering a worse trial than they ever faced in the Blitz.

Irving Wardle



Highly charged but unsentimental: Annette Crosbie, Freddie Jones

Opera in Britain

The Tales of Hoffmann
Guildhall, Portsmouth

This week and next the Cambridge Opera Group take to the road in preparation for their retransmission next year into the Touring Opera Group, under the very promising artistic direction of Simon Halsey and Graham Vick. Their intention is to continue giving small-scale works, like the Britten and Davies pieces with which they won renown, but to present also adaptations of full-blown opera for reduced circumstances — the kind of thing the Welsh National tried a couple of years ago with their *Drama of Aida*.

The comparison is perhaps unfair, the COG's *Tales of Hoffmann* is less pretentious than that enterprise, and considerably more successful, for which some of the credit should

go to Offenbach. An opera never completed needs some work to be done on it, and it is better the work be conscious, impelled by some view of the piece, than that conductor and producer should accept traditional solutions. It also helps when practical considerations, such as the reduction of the orchestra and the elimination of chorus and dancers, can be encouraged to coincide with an interpretation of what the piece is about, or simply with theatrical effectiveness.

This happens. It is a nice point, for instance, that the bacarole should turn out to be emanating from a cassette player that Hoffmann and his fellow revellers are lounging around. On a deeper level, the orchestration of the score for a 16-piece band puts the music back in the pit of an operetta theatre (though Offenbach would have been lucky to be faced with such a talented group of young musicians), and so the way is opened for the opera to

Paul Griffiths

Concert

Arditti Quartet
Wigmore Hall

The appetite of the Arditti Quartet for challenges seems boundless. On Tuesday they smiled at the difficulties of Roberto Gerhard, whose two quartets framed their recital in lucid performances. In between they offered a 20-minute selection of movements from Boulez's *Live pour quatre* that nothing could be more testing (even the Alban Berg Quartet last season were wary of venturing beyond the short first movement). And, as if that were not enough, they played a brand new quartet by James Wood. It was a programme that might have exhausted the audience, if

not the players, had it not had such zip.

The new Wood Quartet is an adventurous departure from a composer who has had most success in fields where he is active as a performer: percussion and choral music. But he has managed to keep his bold gift for new sounds. There are passages that scar through slides with all the live energy of Xenakis, whose influence is suggested too by the combination of bristling, complex textures with strong, simple tunes and pounding rhythms that come from ethnic music. Wood has admitted the importance, unusual in a quartet, of dance music from Asia and the Caribbean.

One reflection of that is his use of a pentatonic scale, but a rather individual one; the usual major seconds are contracted to minor ones, and the other intervals opened out to quarter-note-flattened fourths. One effect of this is to make for a lot of intervals just a quarter-tone up or down from a tritone, which is not a very nice place to be. The sound-world is often therefore sour and thin, while the form is vigorously stamped out in chunks.

The Boulez, though, was good to hear in every way. The Arditti tend to want to get things moving, but they were excellent in exploring the fine-drawn stillnesses of this music, where flashes of detail come and go and yet the picture stays the same. Beauty here is easy to achieve, though not the fierce concentration that makes an almost decadent sustained gracefulness appear hard and desperate importance.

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Paul Griffiths

Opera in the United States

Diamond in plastic

The main event of the first month of San Francisco's autumn season has been the decision of the General Director, Terence McEwen, to recreate, in so far as practical, the 1833 London version of Bellini's *La Sonnambula*. On that occasion Bellini's chaste, sleepwalking nightingale was sung by Malibran, who was basically a coloratura, mezzo-soprano; the part of Amina was adjusted to fit her range. Bellini, who went to London to hear her, anticipated, and by all accounts to some degree experienced, the worst. "Words fail me to express how my poor music was massacred, torn to shreds, flayed by these Englishmen", he wrote. But Malibran's mezzo-Amina he adored.

And this production (from Seattle, directed by Brian Mactonald) did look patchy and thin. False-naïve Swiss villagers forever milled about painted-flat sets, breaking into ballet or song for no reason. Samuel Ramey was a handsome and nobly resonant Count Rodolfo. But Dennis O'Neill seemed to have dropped out of another operatic world entirely. He was the caricature: Italian *tenore robusto*, shouting, reaching, ringing, throbbing, while his wronged light-of-love sailed off on her flawless coloratura flights. Mr McEwen now wants to resurrect, for a world premiere performance, Bellini's "Malibran" version of *I Puritani*, in San Francisco. Sung with the style and finesse of Miss von Stade's Amina, it should be joyful as well as historic.

The autumn season, otherwise rather sparse, was to have opened with an all-star *Ernani* (Pavarotti, Caballé, Milnes, Pliskha). But the endangered health of one of his daughters forced Signor Pavarotti to leave in mid-rehearsal. His next-to-last-minute replacement, Nunzio Todisco, not only sounded oddly second-rate himself; he also appeared to drag down a less-than-thrilling Montserrat Caballé. Paired with Pavarotti, and aided by a more sensitive conductor (Lamberto Gardelli led the orchestra like a run-down park carousel), she might have fared better. The whole production was a dismaying recollection of the cruder pre-war versions of Italian opera we once put up with, salvaged by masterful singing from Sherrill Milnes (Don Carlo) and an altogether compelling creation of Gomez de Silva by Paul Pliskha: an island of intelligence in a sea of mediocrity.

David Littlejohn

London debuts

Drawing out depths

The presence of Yehudi Menuhin as soloist with the London Philharmonic in the Barbican concert in memory of David Oistrakh ensured a capacity audience for the London debut of the 35-year-old Chinese conductor Miao-Tang. He has studied in the West for only one year, but already divides his time pretty evenly between Shanghai and Berlin, where he is the protege of Herbert von Karajan.

The Bruch Violin Concerto certainly put him through his paces. Menuhin's is now a deeply subjective, heavily emotional reading, and Mr Tang had to concentrate every second on its almost improvisatory cbb and flow, particularly in the Adagio, and still find a poise, a discipline to contain the performance as a whole. For the most part he succeeded.

He has a way, not dissimilar from Simon Rattle's, of drawing out deep, broad-breathing phrases from his body of strings, and of complementing expansion with taut, finely-pointed rhythms and tapering

phrases. His main weakness, which showed in the orchestral accompaniment to the Bruch and was confirmed in the Tchaikovsky "Pathétique", lies in pacing.

He is a typically Chinese approach to Western music: warm, close and romantic. When this leads him, as it did in the Tchaikovsky, to an extreme drawing back of tempi, not always ballasted by sufficient inner intensity of ensemble, then some impetus is lost, and the work's organic energy sapped. This was particularly noticeable in the outer movements, where a tendency to rely on the autonomous propulsion of rhapsodic melody was counterbalanced by somewhat erratic bursts of urging. While details of scale still have to settle, then, there is a liveliness of tempo, of imagination, a keenness of temperament and a healthy panache in his music-making which, in this repertoire at least, enables him to stand confidently on his own.

Hilary Finch

Television

A dubious relation to facts

There is a little too much emphasis on historical reconstruction in *Bookmark* (BBC2), which is perhaps television's equivalent of the sociological literary criticism that was once so popular in university courses. The item on J. G. Ballard's most recent novel, for example, concentrated too much on its relation to the "facts" and therefore, with the best of intentions, gave the impression that Ballard had engaged in some form of legend-making rather than written a brilliantly imaginative novel. Nevertheless this is a serious and interesting programme: Bryan Appleyard's film about *Mr No*, the novel which D. H. Lawrence abandoned in 1922, even managed against the odds to make that book sound interesting.

In *at the Deep End* (BBC1) is devoted to the illusion that ordinary people (in last night's case, Paul Heiney) are undertaking odd or extraordinary tasks; what we get, of course, are television "personalities" pretending to be ordinary in order to entertain the public. So it was that Mr Heiney decided to become a film actor, going through what must have been a lightning course at RADA and interviewing as many celebrities as he could find *en route*.

The result is not so much fun as it is clearly supposed to be. The audience may pick up some extraneous and quite useless information — how to mimic anger, and to adopt an Eastern European accent — but the point of the enterprise was otherwise difficult to understand, unless it was the spectacle of nice Mr Heiney trying to make the transition from "personality" to actor, but, in that case, he was travelling in quite the wrong direction, especially since he was supposed to be playing a villain.

The illusion which is fostered, that Mr Heiney is in the position of the "little man" trying to make it on his own, is so obviously preposterous that the point of the programme is rather lost in a sequence of self-conscious or self-congratulatory scenes. It was just another occasion when the "media" congratulates itself, and was as a result rather embarrassing.

Peter Ackroyd

Dance

Ashton ballets
Covent Garden

The Royal Ballet's commemoration of its founder-choreographer continues, but with his comedy *A Wedding Bouquet* replacing at most performances the divertissements that were given on the opening night.

It is tempting to devote one's space to praising the wit of Ashton's choreography, the marvellous dottiness of Gertrude Stein's words, the charming humour of Lord Berners's music and designs, and the performances of Anthony Dowell as the seedy bridegroom, Lesley Collier and Gai Taphouse as his new and old encumbrances. Monica Mason was the bossy housekeeper, Webster, and above all Jennifer Penney's gloriously tipsy Josephine. Duty insists, however,

that after pausing only to mention the new interpretation of the ebullient *Loner*, Guy, by Philip Broomehead (splendidly danced, but he must start learning to act too), the many newcomers to roles in the other ballets given must take priority.

Mark Silver and Karen Paisey started rather well as *Daphnis* and *Chloe*, but their bright and delicate dancing did not build to a strong climax. I think Ashton's decision to show the final scene of the ballet on its own must take part of the blame. The work dates from the early Fifties, his epic period, and in its context this scene is the triumphant end of a long adventure. Stripped of its plot

John Percival

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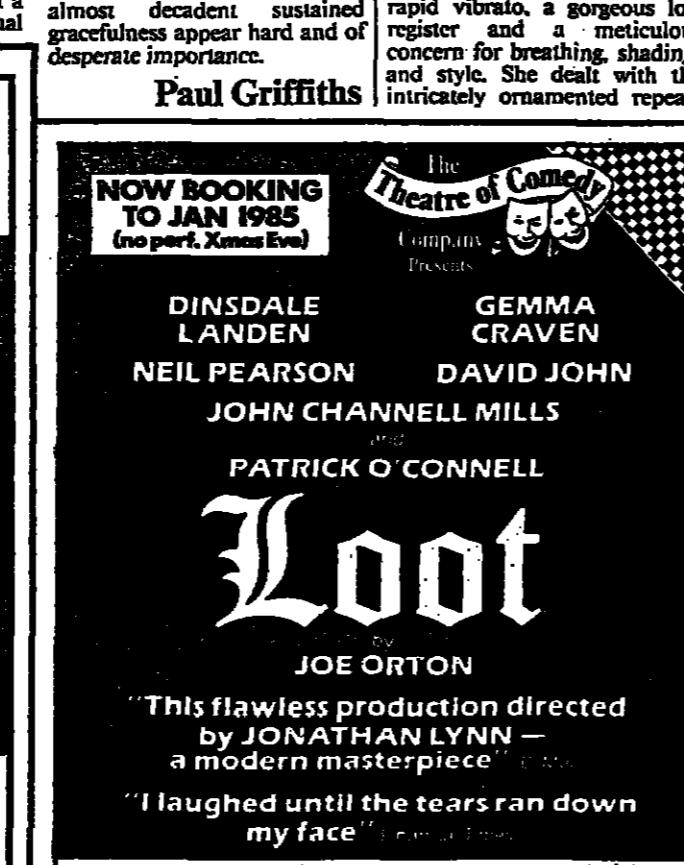
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متحف الحرب

SPECTRUM

Pillars of wisdom on the move

The Times Profile:
The British Library

Earlier this year, on a fine spring morning, readers sitting dozing or deep in study in the famous domed Reading Room of the British Library found themselves briskly evicted from their handsome blue leather desks.

An industrial dispute had reduced the number of staff to fewer than 30 people needed to run it: the library decided it had to close. The readers, many of them lifelong *habitues* of the building, stood for a while blinking resentfully on the steps of the British Museum, like night animals thrust into hateful daylight. Eventually, shaking their heads sorrowfully, they shambled off.

The British Library, and in particular the round Reading Room so beloved of Marx, Lenin, Gibbon, Thackeray (who declared it filled his heart with "grateful reverence"), Thomas Hardy and George Bernard Shaw (who loved it so well he donated some of his royalties to the museum) has become more than work for many of those who use it.

The British Library is 11 years old this year. The readers scarcely noticed when an Act of Parliament chose to give its seal of approval, on July 1, 1972, to a proposal to separate the library from the British Museum, and bring all library services – bibliographical, reference, lending, research and

unless something were done quickly many books were liable to disintegrate and decay. By responding the library is signaling its firm intention to pursue modern times.

Just over two and a quarter centuries ago, the British Museum Act of 1753 created the first state library open to the public in Britain and provided a room in which "all studious and curious Persons" could sit.

Readers, of rather little importance in the early days, were moved seven times before finding a permanent home in the domed Reading Room in 1857 under the aegis of possibly the most inspired of the British Museum's librarians, Antonio Panizzi (later knighted).

The collection in Bloomsbury has around 10 million volumes, and fills 215 miles of shelving. As a national copyright library, it automatically receives a copy of everything printed, whether a new book, the sixteenth reprint of a best-selling novel, or the parish magazine.

The library also collects systematically from abroad, to increase collections first developed in the nineteenth century. The result is that the library is growing at the rate of some 500,000 items a year – or at the speed of two miles of shelving.

The library, like some gigantic cultural sponge, has been absorbing and shedding parts of its functions and collections. In 1825, its paintings went to the National Gallery. In 1905 its newspapers and periodicals moved to Colindale.

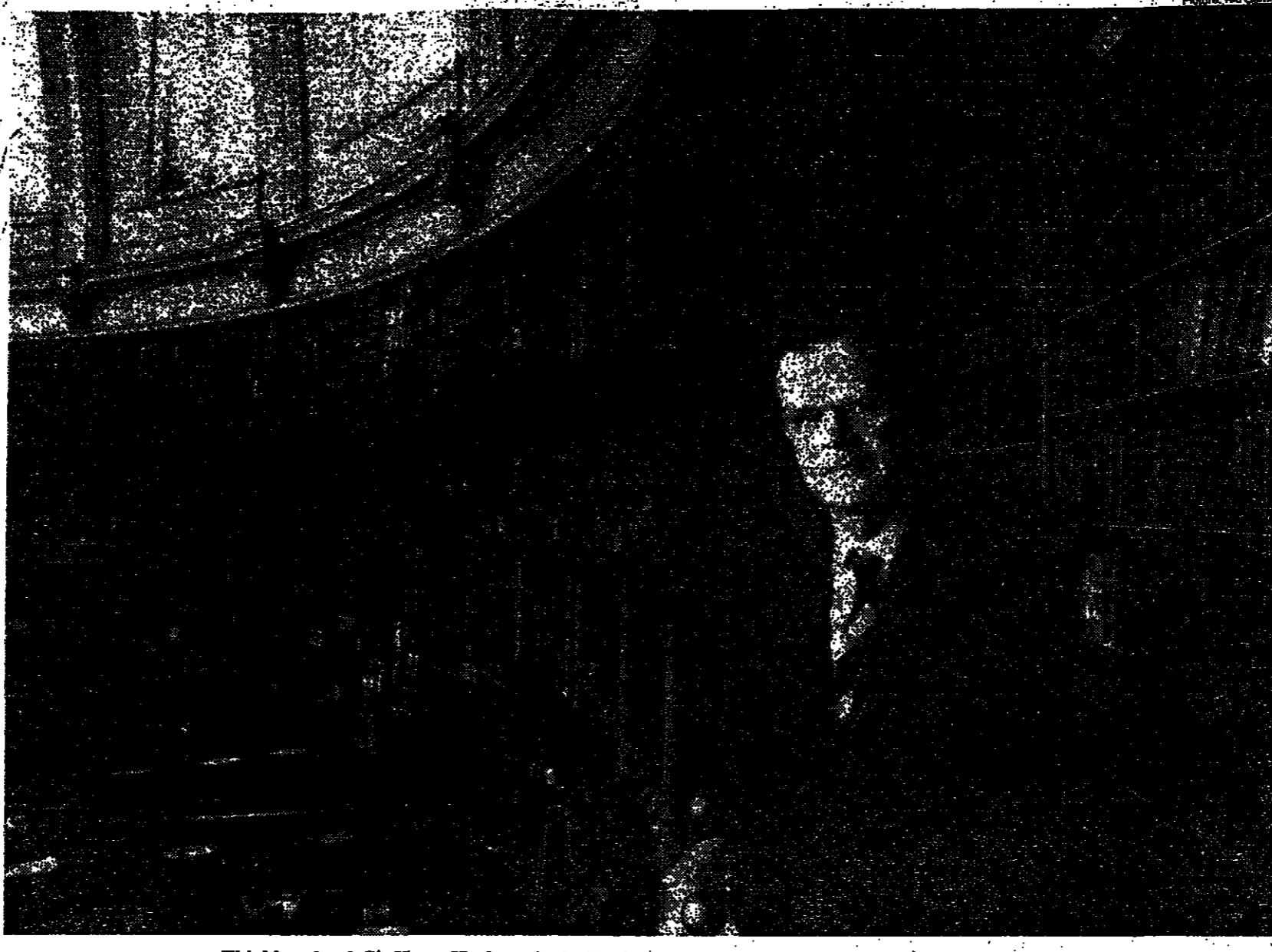
In much the same period, it built up a unique philatelic collection, now numbering more than six million stamps, as well as becoming Britain's leading library for the natural sciences, technology and industrial property.

The Reading Room and the printed books are the library's best known feature, but other departments are of considerable importance. The lending division, in Boston Spa, is a sort of literary factory, lending and photocopying at the rate of thousands of applications a day; the research and development division conducts advanced research into the future of libraries.

Plans began shortly after the Second World War for an expanded library to house these many new acquisitions, and to absorb the seemingly unstoppable deluge of new material. A first suggestion proposed enlarging both museum and library in all four directions. Then came an idea to build a new library opposite in Great Russell Street and Bloomsbury Square, linked by underground passages to the Reading Room. Local residents put a stop to that.

Nor should they miss the library's announcement this morning that it is to set up a National Preservation Office – the first of its kind – to act as adviser to all British libraries and to stimulate and promote good practices of conservation. In March the Kaiyfie report revealed that libraries all over Britain were facing a crisis:

It was only after a committee



Thinking ahead: Sir Harry Hookway in the Reading Room; "the choice is between move and not away"

of inquiry under Sir Fred Dainton recommended in 1969 the administrative separation of library and museum that the way seemed finally clear for a second, this time geographical move to a new site to incorporate in one place what is now dispersed in 19 buildings.

In 1978, Mrs Shirley Williams, then Secretary of State for Education and Science, approved the building of a new library on a 9½-acre former goods yard next to St Pancras Station. Two years and a new administration later, fresh assurances were sought and given by Norman St John-Stevens, Minister for the Arts and Mrs Thatcher at the time.

In 1982, with a budget of £88m agreed for a first stage of foundations and basements 30 metres deep, work began. The British Library is generally agreed to be one of the three great libraries of the world, together with the Lenin Library in Leningrad and the Library of Congress in Washington. What is more, say the staff, it is now running remarkably well – at least for the public.

The eccentric who wander and mutter along the stacks are agreeably nurtured. "We try not to stop anyone," says Mr Gibson. "We do have some very elderly readers whose academic work is long over, but we have not yet withdrawn anyone's ticket on geriatric grounds."

The need for space had been obvious for years, and more and

more has been "outhoused" in warehouses around London but it took a report produced in 1975 to reveal just how somewhat insular institution.

The first chief executive, Sir Harry Hookway, who retired recently, deemed it one of his main successes that the library has become "outward looking, nationally and internationally". Readers get better service than ever before.

As long as the research constitutes a "genuine need", and the would-be reader is not a student under 21, for whom libraries are assumed to exist elsewhere, a ticket is not difficult to obtain. About 84 per cent of the books requested are, says Mr Ken Gibson, head of public services, delivered to desks within an hour.

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1983: A YEAR IN THE LIFE
OF THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Holdings: 15m volumes
Staff: 2,417
Grant-in-aid: £42,950,000
Revenue: £9,918,000
Readers: Academic: 52%; Post-graduate: 29%; Writer: 10%
Book applications: 568,500
Seats in Bloomsbury: 875
New building: Phase 1 AA: cost allocated: £26m; completion: 1990/91. Phase 1: AB: cost requested: £250-280m; completion: mid-1980s. Phase 1B & 1C: cost: £2, completion: 7

library. But in one sense that would be the worst of all worlds: with the department of printed books split and storage everywhere.

"What we really hope for is to complete all phase one – to take in reading rooms, books and staff all in one place."

Such reassurance is not likely to be forthcoming. "In the next 12 months," says a spokesman for the Office of Arts and Libraries, "We'll be making a decision about IAB, 1B and 1C will have to wait." The cost of completing 1A alone is put at between £50m and £60m.

When Sir Harry, a genial former civil servant and scientist who refers to himself as a "renegade scholar", was named first chief executive of the British Library, there was, he says, "consternation".

His successor, Mr Kenneth Cooper, is also a former civil servant, having come last month to the library from the Manpower Services Commission. "But this time," says Sir Harry, "there have been no complaints".

His point is that in just 10 years, opinion has shifted strongly away from the tradition of pure scholar librarians to a more proper understanding of the need for good managers able to combine scholarship with comprehension of the new technology. In keeping with this Mr Cooper has said the library will soon produce a corporate plan.

Certainly, the demands on library staff now go well beyond those of pure scholarship. More than most institutions, the British Library is at an instant of change, as people ponder what they call the questionable "dinosaur" syndrome, with material accumulating without pause. They wonder whether the future may not hold the pattern of some libraries in America which see themselves as "community resource centres" with lists of local car pools and bus schedules.

As for the "studious and curious Persons" who made up the library's first readers, they would be bemused by the microfiche and on-line retrieval systems.

Caroline Moorehead

A taste of Paradise to Dubai.



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There are some areas of design and planning which have hardly known a fresh idea in thirty years. Cinema posters. Football match advertisements. National anthems. Whisky bottle labels. Above all, topographical postcards – those terrible things you send home from holiday, taking all the message space to explain to your friends that the place is not nearly as bad as the garish, flat, overcrowded photo on the other side suggests.

The impulse of the postcard maker seems to be the same as that of diary manufacturers – to cram as much boring, obvious detail as possible and print it as unhelpfully as possible. If postcard designers could get the Tower of London in the same photo as Buckingham Palace, they would.

moreover... Miles Kington

Fresh back from Greece for the first time, I have wonderful news. The Greeks have made the long-awaited breakthrough. They still have the dreadful old cards, of course, crammed full of Ionic columns against the colour of blue plastic carrier bags, but side by side, on different stands, they have a display of the most wonderful photographs never to get into an art gallery, in stunning colour, positively reeking of the joy felt by the photographer in finding the picture and often signed by the artist himself.

When this started, I do not know. Where is easier: the bulk of the pictures come from

Mykonos, an island much frequented by tourists, louts and gays of all nations, but also, it seems, by highly original photographers. Their techniques have not yet been applied to the mainland, with the curious result that the best cards in a Peloponnesian town like Nauplion are all of Mykonos, but it can only be a matter of time before the revolutionary photographers unpack their bags on the mainland.

What seems to have happened is this. Someone with a camera said to himself: "A picture of lots of white houses or a row of boats or a line of windmills is boring. But a picture of part of a boat or a bit of a house – let us try that and see what it looks like. Perhaps he even said to himself: "Let us give an idea of the general by photographing the particular – let the detail do the work of the panorama."

Whatever went through his mind, the result was ravishing. My favourite photograph is simply of a series of white-washed steps, with a pot of I think, basil growing on the bottom one. The shadows are playing down the white steps and picking out the roughness in the last century.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 478)



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THE DIARIES OF A CABINET MINISTER
by
the Right Hon. James Hacker MP
edited by Jonathan Lynn and Antony Jay

"I say, Humphrey, have you seen my new book from the BBC?"

"No Minister — has it been cleared through the proper channels?"

"Well really Humphrey, you know everyone's writing their memoirs nowadays."

"I believe so, Minister. Of course, it is not for me to comment on Ministerial eccentricities Minister."

"Oh come along Humphrey, it's simply splendid! It covers in detail my time in office as Minister for Administrative Affairs where my brief was to investigate and control administrative efficiency and overspending."

"Yes Minister."

James Fenton reviews the last book of criticism by the Grand Old Man of poetry and *Seven Types of Ambiguity*

The genius of the late Sir William Empson's prose is very much bound up with his tone of voice. He wrote in much the same way as he spoke, and this means that, although he is often difficult to follow, he always convinces you that what he is saying is worth at least trying to catch. Some things in these essays — the last collection he himself put together before his death this year — are completely obscure to me. But that is not a fatal objection. Indeed, there are times when I suspect that his eccentricity is entertaining at the expense of sense. On such occasions I have a tendency to plump for entertainment. We should not always have our feet too firmly on the ground.

It could be, for instance, that there is no such thing as the improbable Wimsatt Law, which Empson several times attacks. Or perhaps it is overstated in the form given: the Law, says Empson, states that an author's intentions cannot (and should not) be grasped by the reader. Empson by contrast maintains that "a student of literature should be trying all the time to empathize with the author (and of course the assumptions and conventions by which the author found himself bound); to tell him that he cannot even partially succeed is about the most harmful thing you can do."

One of the uses of biography is to shed light on an author's intentions. The essays here collected demonstrate that particular use.

Empson's attitude appears to represent a staunch, if heretical defence of common sense — until you come to see what he

USING BIOGRAPHY by William Empson

Chatto & Windus. £12.95

means by biography. Then you have, for a while, to pause. For what is here meant by biography is an altogether more brilliant and speculative undertaking than the word normally connotes. The foundation of biography is of course historical evidence, but where this is incomplete, Empson, by dint of the empathy he recommends to students of literature, attempts to furnish the missing details. Here, in his account of the death of Marvell, the technique is used to beautiful effect:

I suggest that he walked out from an evening party at a house in Hull, and used his eminence to walk out through a gate of the city, and walked for what remained of the night, indifferently dressed, the fatal darkness and returned at dawn to take the first coach back to London. As the coach jolted slowly, he got more and more feverish, he would reflect on how thoroughly tricky his situation had become, on every side. When at last he got home, irritated all over, and his doctor suggested a whisky medicine, as the tertuary returned, warning him that it would cause a long, deep sleep, he accepted that surely nobody expected to die from the familiar ague, this time though it was no problem. But from a real sleep he would expect to wake up, as often before, suddenly seeing a way out, knowing

that to do.

Three of these essays are devoted to Marvell. The third of them, which ends with the passage quoted, is much of the time impossible to follow, and it is full of adumbrations of what a person would have done or thought. To know whether

you agree with his speculations, you really need to have at your disposal all the evidence gathered by Empson; but this is made impossible by the blurring of distinctions between speculations and evidence.

The speculative method is used in a more controlled

fashion in the essay on Yeats and the evidence for the Byzantium poems. Once again, the key is empathy, and, once again, Empson's daring is remarkable. He is thinking about the mechanical bird, and wondering why the idea of the poet's becoming such a thing

had so much significance for Yeats. And he begins to think, perhaps Yeats himself once owned, or wished to own, a mechanical bird of the kind that was popular in the 1870s. And Empson tells us how his own grandmother had such a toy, and how he had seen it as a child, and how his mother (born in 1865, the same year as Yeats) had also seen it as a child. The passage continues in a relaxed way, with memories of the mechanical birds which Queen Victoria sent to the Empress Dowager of China, and which (since the communist victory there) have been removed from public display. We are even told the name of the firm, Ellicott, which made them.

Such tours, Empson says, "had come to be felt somehow edifying, or at least poetical in a high-minded way; many people nowadays, while regarding this sentiment as quaint and remote, would yet feel that the doll in *Petrouchka* is telling you some mysterious truth which half comforts you and half makes you cry." This point is well worth arriving at, and it is difficult to see how Empson could have got to it without his empathizing, biographical, and indeed, autobiographical, method.

The same approach is used to elucidate the notoriously obscure lines: "For Hades' bobbin, bound in mummy-cloth/May unwind the winding path", which I had always assumed to be nonsense. According to Empson, Yeats is thinking of the technique used by Theseus in the labyrinth, or by Curdie in George MacDonald's *The Princess and the Goblins*. Yeats imagines picking up the mummy and unwinding the single length of cloth in order to mark his way back to daylight. Presumably, then, the furthest point to which he could penetrate Byzantium is the point at which the contents of the wrapping are fully revealed to him.

The *Princess and the Goblins* was published, Empson says, "when Yeats was seven years old and became part of the equipment of every respectable Victorian nursery. One of my earliest memories is of clutching a candle in my shaking hand and climbing over heaps of coal as I wound up the thread left by my sister, across the vasty and labyrinthine cellars of Yokefleet Hall. If the child Yeats had not played this game, too, it is hard to see why the grotesque concert rang a bell in him."

Whether or not we quite share Empson's conviction that he and Yeats played the same games and were impressed by the same toys, there is a welcome and corrective vividness about his elucidation of the Byzantium poems, which demands that you remember Yeats's Victorian childhood and the kind of circumstances that formed his imagination. Of equal, perhaps greater value, is his review of *The Waste Land* manuscripts and his thoughts on its meaning and origin.

Summarizing, the theme which Pound must have detected, and which English readers tend to regard as incidental to the poem, Empson suggests as follows: "London has just escaped from the First World War, but it is certain to be destroyed in the second one, because it is in the hands of financiers. The very place of it will be sown with salt, as Carthage was, and forgotten by men; or it will be sunk under water".

To this reading, the suppressed passages of Jew-baiting are "still deeply involved in the final poetry". But Empson is not surprised at Eliot's *The Jew Baiter*. He is "not inclined to pull a long face about this. A writer had better rise above the ideas of his time, but one should not take offence if he doesn't."

BOOKS I

How to use life to shed light on meaning



you agree with his speculations, you really need to have at your disposal all the evidence gathered by Empson; but this is made impossible by the blurring of distinctions between speculations and evidence.

The speculative method is used in a more controlled

author of this manual, a tennis kit of strange appearance.

It lies forgotten for some time until J.P.'s interest in spirited games is aroused on a transatlantic voyage by a beautiful and athletic English heiress, Laura. While briefly admitted to her charms, he has to endure the jealous presence of a singularly loudish aristocrat, Lord Charles.

Reunited with Laura in New York, J.P. is introduced to her luxurious house equipped with a De-Alfonse court. They engage in a rapturous game.

Scoff after Laura is driven into the Grand Canyon in a Rolls by Lord Charles.

A not-entirely ingenuous New Yorker, Serge Gavotte (otherwise Blue) sets out with his wife and infant son to trek across America in search of the perfect musical phrase. The quest takes him through Eastern, Mid-Western, Southern, and South-Western states until he reaches California where he takes leave of his wife in San Francisco. On the way he affords Mr Sorrentino the opportunity of ruthlessly ridiculing pastoral convention and in doing so satirizing without mercy almost every aspect and assumption of American life.

The writing has immense energy and versatility. Some of the episodes — a Saint Patrick's Day address by a fanatic Irish-American; Father Donald Debris S.J. on the Christian approach to sex; Big Black's violent lecture; a Southern Idyll are venomously effective, but the highly mannered mixture of arachne elaboration and unusually foul derision becomes ultimately very wearying.

Lessing's little experiment, fishnets, bluestockings, and satirical fantasies

FICTION

Nicholas
Shakespeare

THE DIARIES OF JANE SOMERS

By Doris Lessing
Michael Joseph. £9.95

PARACHUTES AND KISSES

By Erica Jong
Granada. £8.95

result is not particularly penetrating or erotic. It does, though, inspire me to react with the emotional excess and candour of its author. One of the more self-indulgent novels to come my way, *Parachutes & Kisses*, left me with the strong suspicion that it was written by a crashing bore, which no amount of learned reference to Rilke, Neruda, even Lord Charles.

We rejoin Isadora experiencing "every woman's greatest nightmare". She has won success only to lose the one man she has ever loved. Unable to cope with her success, husband Josh has walked out — Josh that is with whom she had such a rare understanding: ("They could go to a dull dinner party, listen to some tortuous speech by the host, merely glance at each other and understand at once what the other thought...") Left holding their baby, Isadora is morose to the point of migraines. Aware of her sexuality — "the cosmic juice of her being" — she plunges into a series of affairs. Sex at 39 is better than ever. Her orgasms, we are reliably informed, "grasp at the emptiness of certain death, with unaccustomed ferocity".

And there are orgasms with a jockey, a Nobel Laureate and most gratifying of all one Berkeley Sproul. Fourteen years her junior, Sproul has learned

his love-making from her books. He was tender but there was no question he was a man.

If Isadora can be admired for the uninhibited way in which she refuses to censor herself, she must be praised for exposing the most horrifying truth of all. She is a crashing bore, which no amount of learned reference to Rilke, Neruda, even Lord Charles.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Striking similarity

Links have been established between striking Notts miners and the IRA's political wing, Sinn Fein. According to Martin Bower of Cograve NUM, writing in the left-wing *Labour Briefing*, 14 Notts miners recently visited Northern Ireland because "we decided that with the tactics the Police were using on our picket lines it would be beneficial for us to witness things at first hand and draw our own conclusions as to any similarities". The delegation was shown round by Sinn Fein supporters, writes Bower, and saw "all the forts that the British Army had built to justify their presence" and "the sophisticated monitoring systems which aid the repression of the Nationalist population in the surrounding areas of West Belfast". The miners also attended "workshops" in a mill just off the Falls Road. Bower does not mention that the mill houses the Sinn Fein advice centre. Nor, unfortunately, does he reveal what they learnt.

Bowing out

Paul Eddington, star of *Yes Minister* and *The Good Life*, will resign this morning from the board of Bristol Old Vic Theatre in protest against the acceptance of £5,000 worth of sponsorship from Imperial Tobacco. Eddington, who has been on the board for ten years, says he no longer feels he can accept money earned by damaging people's health.

Send a rocket

The Labour Party was thrilled when it first saw *Thatcher's Reign: A Bad Case of the Blues* — the collection of sanctimonious, contradictory and downright embarrassing Thatcher quotations which Chatto publish on November 5. So much so that it offered to hold a big Guy Fawkes night launch party at its Walworth Road headquarters with fireworks, a male Mrs T impersonator, and Labour leaders in attendance.

Unfortunately it only occurred to someone a week ago to ask the political affiliation of the authors — Melanie MacFadyean and Margaret Renn — lest they turned out to be Tories. It proved even worse. Renn said she belonged to the Socialist Workers' Party, and Labour has abruptly cancelled the festivities.

• When trying to send an urgent "message" yesterday I dialled 190 to be told British Telecom could not deliver the message until the following day. "If you want to reach me today," said the obliging operator, "why don't you use the Interiors service?"

Weak defence

Bruce Fraser, who dimly failed to set up a Conservative CND last month when right-wingers backed the meeting, should be more selective about his correspondence. At the time I revealed — from a letter he had written to an apparent supporter — that he had conveniently joined the Tory Party three months earlier to give himself credibility. Now he has written to another professed supporter disclosing that he is still burrowing away, and recognizing "the need to be more professional this time". The recipient's name? Huw Shorter — the young Monday Clubber fined £200 in Brighton for helping to destroy CND's mock Trident submarine.

BARRY FANTONI



Neville thought for years St Michael was the patron saint of underwear

Abroad view

A batch of blistering "post reports" written by Australian diplomats to guide their successors has just been released under Australia's Freedom of Information Act. Incumbents of the Dublin embassy say: "The generally lax attitude of the Irish towards business and working life and an all-too-common lack of professionalism at most levels of Irish society are more suggestive of a developing-country mentality than that of a Western European country," while Ireland's "poor standard of driving" is attributed to excess alcohol and lack of discipline. Of a roasting to Bangkok, the diplomats conclude their diatribe: "Thank God the Embassy has a happy hour at the Bunyip Bar." Chicago is "introverted and parochial"; Rangoon has "five times as many rats as people"; Lagos is "large, dirty, unattractive and unhealthy"; and on Kingston, "almost anyone with skill or wit applies those talents to leave Jamaica forever." Diplomats advise against giving formal dinners to Ghanaians, and stress that "oral subtleties such as irony should be avoided until confident of the level of sophistication of even highly educated Ghanaians." Sadly, cannot trace any comments from London postings.

PHS

Miners: hit them in the conscience

by Norman Strauss

The clearest lesson of the seven-month coal strike is that the Government is still not adequately equipped to handle a well-trained and organized opponent in psychological and presentational terms. Moving coal stocks is much easier than shifting attitudes and beliefs. To a convinced striking miner there is as yet no alternative but to carry on. The idea of a slow drift back to work was always optimistic unless new information made miners, their families and all those involved see things differently.

Providing that political information is the Government's responsibility, even though the strike is against the NCB, it is precisely because this strike is against the known policy of a democratic government that it ought to be defeated.

The Government's many roles must be clarified and its true purpose made clear. New pressure points must be identified to cause movement of hearts and minds. The obvious list — DHSS payments, suspended mortgage and HP payments, tax rebates and free coal — will surely induce further hatred of authority. A different part of the human spirit must be reached.

The identification of stimuli to achieve this has so far eluded the Government and is probably outside Ian MacGregor's consciousness.

The task is to cause lots of citizens to think again and by so doing, see things differently. At a minimum, those closest to the striking miners must begin to ask questions and wonder whether they are doing the right thing.

Why do state and business institutions (including the banks, building societies, local traders and HP companies) bend over back-

wards not to upset the strikers and to minimize their hardships? The parties are prepared to cause bodily and mental stress to those who disagree with them. Why should the state be kind to people who are so cruel and hold its laws in contempt? Is it fair that only the state always turns the other cheek?

It is just that, by diverting the attentions of government departments to the strike, energies, resources and attention to the problems of long-term unemployment, the welfare state, youth training and adult retaing are the Government; the opposition parties; and the TUC.

Without new efforts from at least some of these parties, the most likely outcome now looks as if it will be led by events rather than by strategy. Future events (the they power cuts, strikes, inflation, actions, personal frustration, deaths, accidents, exhaustion, or a flush of public debate and private capitulation) will themselves force a revaluation upon all the groups affected. The worse events become, the more the pressures on those involved will mount until, finally and very painfully, something has to give.

A humanistic yet human perspective is vital when the insiders involved in the dispute are all under extreme psychological pressure and have developed seemingly unshakable and fiercely loyal views of the justness of their own positions. In the hope that this mature approach can still occur, there follows an agenda for ministers who might like to think again now that the unthinkable must be thought.

• Recognize that this strike now involves national significance and credibility. It is no longer sectional and just about coal. An interlocking range of issues and policies encompassing the fields of economics, energy policy, industrial

competitiveness, new technology, capital investment and unemployment trends and forecasts underlies the Government's reason for demanding an efficient coal industry and the miners' reasons for striking.

In this context, it is a priority to be allocated more resources per head than workers in other industries, not the other way round.

• Identify and address sympathetically the critical psychological variables at work among the miners: these include individual uncertainties, hopes and fears, and the need for self-respect as a worker, citizen, parent, community member and individual.

• Decide on the ideas, experiences and beliefs that are cementing current patterns of anti-social behaviour, explain why this has happened and work out something better that could replace them over time.

• Show goodwill by admitting to past errors and mistakes and apologising accordingly. Remember that you want them to climb down too.

• Realize the massive number of elements that need to be originated and communicated and set the government machine to work on a full-time inter-departmental task force basis. Use outside academic and media advisers both as a check on the work and to help draw up a plan for communicating this new understanding and reasons for hope. Check that good citizens can see all this to be fair and convincing. If they can't, why should the striking miners?

The author, a London management consultant, was a member of the Prime Minister's Policy Unit at 10 Downing Street 1979-82.
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The Freemason Dean of St Albans explains his apparently conflicting beliefs to Pat Kreit

Christ his witness, the Great Architect his guide



Dr Moore: "There can be only one God"

people who would otherwise have nothing, it gives them something. And it is one of the bases of Freemasonry that you accept the existence of the Great Architect of the Universe. This is God, though not in the Christian sense. The God that we worship is the same God that Jews and Muslims worship. It is God. There can be only one God."

White sympathizing with those Christians who feel that they could not belong to a body that excluded recognition of Christ's divinity, he said that it was not an issue of conscience for him: "Some people feel that their allegiance to Christ is compromised by associating with people who accept God but not Christ. I don't feel like that. I am glad to be associated with people who accept God as Creator."

A few years ago he started an annual service in St Albans for Freemasons, with agreement of the Chapter. This year's, held last Sunday, attracted a congregation of about 300 Masons and their wives.

Did a Masonic service have any special features, I asked Dr Moore. He said no Masonic insignia would be worn, nor any changes made to

the cathedral's decor, though he admitted that in the past some bizarre things had been allowed elsewhere which had generated concern:

"In the bad old days extraordinary things were done. For instance there are tales of the cross being removed from churches because the Masons had a service. But I have nothing to do with that sort of thing. Anyone who comes to worship in the cathedral does what we do."

I attended the service, and the only part which jarred was the description in the closing prayers given by the Rev Dr Robert MacQueen, a former GP and now rector of Royston, Hertfordshire, to heaven as "The Great Grand Lodge".

Dr Moore and Dr MacQueen later reassured me that there was no Freemasonry in Heaven. It was a Masonic synonym.

The origins of the special vocabulary and sometimes blood-curdling oaths of the Craft is in part an accident of history, said Dr Moore: "Masonry got going at the beginning of the eighteenth century in England — a period of allegory. If we started today we shouldn't start with a lot of the things that exist."

Various unpleasant and even fatal penalties are accepted in a solemn ceremony as the punishment for anyone who betrays the Brotherhood's clandestine codes. The tongue and heart to be torn out and the bowels burned to ashes.

But this was not intended to be taken literally, said Dr Moore.

"These are the traditional penalties. I have never heard of them being used. If I really thought that was going to happen I would pack up tomorrow."

Dr Moore pointed out that Masonry raised large sums for charities, and no longer exclusively of their own. The often heard complaint that they "feathered their own nests" had been headed and there had been radical changes.

The St Albans Abbey restoration appeal for £1.7m has benefited by a £5,000 donation from Grand Lodge.

He also made it clear that one of the valued aspects of Masonry for him, and many others, is the comradeship it offers. He explained: "I can go to any part of the country, any town anywhere, and will be welcomed in the lodge without reservation. It enables me to meet a cross section of the community whom I should otherwise never meet."

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Hunt v Helms: America's other key contest



pragmatic Democrats who have been springing up in positions of authority across the South. Others include governors Charles Robb of Virginia, Richard Riley of South Carolina, Robert Graham of Florida and Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia.

As Hunt explained during one of his televised debates with Helms, they believe in three things: balanced budget, economic growth and social justice.

Most North Carolinians, including many Helms supporters, agreed that Hunt's record as a two-term governor has been a good one. New industry, much of it high-tech, has poured into the state, creating thousands of new jobs.

On social issues he has managed to be progressive without being seen to be too liberal.

Hunt has the black vote if he is to win, and is counting on the 100,000 newly-registered black voters to support him on November 6. Helms's supporters have been carrying out a registration drive of their own, mainly among Christian fundamentalists, and claim to have signed up more new voters than the Democrats.

The Helms-Hunt race is a contest between representatives of two historical, distinctly Southern forces.

Helms's politics are of the segregationist South, a South which still uses the Civil War and Reconstruction as the benchmarks by which to measure present-day events. He is anti-communist and anti-big government. His enemies range from Castro to Kennedy, from pinkos to the press.

His Senate record has been largely a negative one. He carried out an unsuccessful filibuster last year against a national holiday honouring Martin Luther King, whom he denounced as a communist. For his backers — poor whites, conservative businessmen, tobacco farmers and Christian fundamentalist groups such as the Moral Majority — Helms can do no wrong.

If Hunt succeeds in defeating Helms he will be seen as a giant

killer, the man who defeated the ayatollahs of the New Right and made the South safe for moderate Democrats.

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politicians, not known for his subtlety. He accuses Hunt of "bringing in the coalition of blacks and liberals and homosexuals and labour unions". His campaign literature shows Hunt alongside the Rev Jesse Jackson, the former black presidential aspirant whose name evokes hate and fear among many Southern whites.

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UNITY NOT UNION

The relations between France and Britain are in general good, said President Mitterrand in his interview with *The Times* yesterday. That is certainly true in the sense that the relationship between Mrs Thatcher's Conservative and President Mitterrand's Socialist government is more cordial and understanding than that between the two countries at any other time during the period of the Fifth Republic (perhaps, even since the war) with the possible and somewhat delusive exception of the short interlude of the Pompidou-Heath accord.

The essentials of western democracy and on the need to defend it unambiguously, the two countries and the two governments are as one. Moreover, the President and the Prime Minister plainly have a great deal of personal regard for each other, despite their apparently opposing positions in the political spectrum. Mrs Thatcher admires the President's patriotic commitment to the defence of his country and of the West; he admires her disposition to make her objectives clear and stuck to them. The relationship between the two has certainly been easier since the economic management of the Mitterrand government has switched from its initial essay in fundamentalist socialism towards a version of liberal economics bearing a close resemblance to Thatcherite ideals of financial discipline.

Having remarked on the generally good relationship between the two countries, however, President Mitterrand went on in his interview to add the rather curious qualification that they do not have "the same conceptions of Europe." Since he also observed that though "France has chosen to strengthen the union", he "did not know exactly what Britain would choose", the inference the President intended to be drawn was clear. He is arguing that Britain has a less union-minded view of the European Community than France, and yesterday in his address to both Houses of Parliament, he returned to the broad theme of union which he has used in several earlier speeches this year.

COSTLY REPAIRS

The management of the National Coal Board made a bad mistake when it tried to put more pressure on the pit deputies to cross picket lines when the deputies were already having to tread a tenuous and difficult path in the mining communities with which they are so closely bound. Yesterday's last-minute decision by Nacods, the deputies union, to call off their strike was the result of some skilful repair work by the Board. It was aided by some heavy-handed behaviour by the notables of the TUC, who tried to use the deputies' threatened strike as a lever to pursue the NUM's aims. That pressure was counterproductive. The deputies resented it. And the TUC may now reflect that if it cannot pressurize Nacods, it is unlikely to carry much sway with Mr Arthur Scargill.

The NCB's repair work was, however, expensive, as tends to happen when one has to call in the emergency plumber. The deal adds one further concession to those made to the National Union of Mineworkers at Acas at the deputies' behest. The Board's management of pits not scheduled for closure, will now also be subject to independent outside review, where the unions fear that a pit is being set up for closure, for instance by lack of investment. There will be yet longer consultation on the basis of a five-year rolling programme.

More important, however, is

that the concessions made to the NUM at the previous Acas talks have now been set in concrete by the NCB's understanding with the deputies. Although there is room for some disagreement over the precise meaning of these concessions, they would certainly lead to the five pits subject to closure being reprieved, at least until they have been put back through the even longer review procedure, and would lead to the plan to close 4 million tonnes of capacity being withdrawn for review.

These concessions were not even appropriate in March, when the NCB under Mr Ian MacGregor launched its programme to catch up on the previous backlog of closures of hopelessly uneconomic pits. They certainly make no sense now, when these threatened pits will require more money to rehabilitate them and the NCB will be calling on government for extra funds to invest in putting other more or less economic pits back into good order.

In this sense, the Nacods mistake has left the NCB in the position that it has conceded overgenerous final terms, which could only be justified by bringing a swift end to the strike, without gaining any settlement, except for the NUM on a return to work. What were the final terms, have, in effect, become a starting point for today's renewed talks with the NUM leaders.

Services rendered
From Mr J. C. Maxwell

During the last three months the British public have seen the saving of York Minster from fire and the rescue of many victims from the roof of Grand Hotel, Brighton, bomb attack and several serious rail crashes.

All these tasks have been accomplished by members of the British fire services who are our everyday heroes with taken-for-granted courage.

The leadership levels displayed by officers commanding the fire service crews, together with the skill and determination shown by the fire fighters, can be credited to the training of all officer ranks, senior and junior, conducted by the staff of the Fire Service College at Lytton in Marsh, Gloucestershire.

In recognition of the way the fire service crews respond to man-made natural disasters it would seem to me, writing as a former fire officer, that some form of national recognition should be afforded to the fire service which spearheads the rescue work.

It might now be the appropriate time for the Home Secretary to recommend to her Majesty that the

Royal Fire Service College becomes the Royal Fire Service College?

Yours faithfully,

J. C. MAXWELL

319 Dogsthorpe Road,

Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.

Built on a rock

From Emeritus Professor G. N. Walton

Sir, Professor E. L. Mascall (page 10, October 13) asks the question "Is the Christian religion derived from a revelation given by God in Christ... or is it something to be constructed by us..."?

The practising scientist learns throughout his life to fit his theories to the results of his experiments, and never, on any account, no matter what the pressures, to twist the results to fit some preconceived theory. Liberal and progressive theologians, judging in particular from recent programmes on the media, tend to do precisely what the scientist is forbidden to do: they tend to twist the meaning of the Christianity that we have been given to meet their own preconceived notions.

Academic theologians may plead that this accusation reverses the theory which must be made to fit

issues. President Mitterrand, however, appears to be going further. Earlier this year he gave his general blessing to the so-called draft Treaty of Union which was passed by the European Parliament and referred to the Council of Ministers. This document would impose a much more supranational character on the Community, including change from the system of unanimous voting in the Council of Ministers (which preserves the national veto on vital questions affecting the interests of a sovereign state), to majority voting. It also proposed that some categories of questions should be designated for the final decision of the Community instead of resting with national governments.

These ideas go well beyond anything feasible for the foreseeable future. The unity of the Community cannot be achieved by trying to enforce it through institutions. What is more, the whole history of France in the Community, not to mention its current attitudes, does nothing to support the kind of "union" now apparently being promoted by French rhetoric. The Community is, as de Gaulle taught it to be, a "union des Paroies" and that is both the kind of union that Britain can support and the kind that can take firm root. The present French stress on union with federalist implications contradicts French behaviour: it is really possible to envisage a French president ceding sovereignty on any question to the Community except where it is clear that French and Community interests will remain identical?

This theme of union simply confuses the issue. President Mitterrand's speech yesterday illustrated this. After his grand but imprecise references to institutional change, the one concrete example he chose to make his point was the need for technological cooperation under government auspices. But this needs no institutional change. It is possible now. The danger with slogans about union is that they will impede unity, which is what the European Community should be about.

The essential question, of course, is what is to be understood by this "political reality." Mrs Thatcher herself on more than one occasion, and without ambiguity, has advocated a more concerted Community and one acting in unison in international

affairs. The concessions made to the NUM at the previous Acas talks have now been set in concrete by the NCB's understanding with the deputies. Although there is room for some disagreement over the precise meaning of these concessions, they would certainly lead to the five pits subject to closure being reprieved, at least until they have been put back through the even longer review procedure, and would lead to the plan to close 4 million tonnes of capacity being withdrawn for review.

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Protection of churches
From Mr Ivor Bulmer-Thomas

Sir, Lord Sandford (October 3) has

drawn an idealistic picture of the

Church of England's system of

protecting churches which bears

little correspondence with the facts.

In any case, Christianity is not a theory; it is a practical way of life, and a valid reason for worship. It has a structure given through the centuries which has served the world, and in particular those who undermine it undermine western civilisation. Fortunately Christianity is founded on a rock that is not easily displaced.

Yours faithfully,

GILBERT WALTON

Mulleders,

Swan Lane,

Burford, Oxfordshire.

Due recognition for engineers

From the President of The Fellowship of Engineering

Sir, Arthur Palmer has done much to encourage parliamentary interest in engineering and to emphasize the vital contribution which engineers make to national prosperity: so it was disappointing to read his confused letter published on October 20.

The fact is that the Finniston report did a splendid job in diagnosing the obstacles which have prevented engineers making an optimum contribution to productive industry, but the proposals in the report were not so good.

They did not gain the support of the great majority of the engineering profession, for the simple reason that they would have involved the regulation of the profession by a government-appointed authority, and it is of course absurd to suggest, as Arthur Palmer does, that the influence and pay of engineers would in some way be enhanced by Parliament giving statutory recognition to engineers.

There are many more effective ways than that of enabling engineers to serve the nation: first, to provide better education and training facilities for engineers, at all levels and in greater numbers, and secondly to promote a clearer understanding of the engineering dimension.

The first is being energetically pursued by the Engineering Council, which needs the active support of industry, trade unions, engineering institutions of all kinds, and the academic world, as well as of Government, which must make the investment needed to initiate the task because technology is advancing so quickly.

But when basic values – such as police mobility and efficiency in the war against crime on the one hand and the liberty of the subject in the face of police power on the other – seem opposed, the best system is one which embraces both and holds them in balance.

Interestingly, you suggest that our

libertarian tradition points towards local accountability. Many of us

would be disposed heartily to support that notion, but of course the preservation of liberty is harmed if local influence is pushed too far and the police come under local party political control.

I would certainly argue that the present balance – as your editorial implies – is tipped so far towards centralism that the local role can easily become nominal. I hope that proper local accountability can be strengthened and better defined.

But liberty best protected when the other powerful interests check and counter-check each other.

There are occasions when modern society might benefit from less, not more, integration and when greater effectiveness carries more hidden

difficulties.

So I hope that Arthur Palmer will

use his considerable influence, not to revive agitation for the red herring of statutory registration but to impress on Parliament, government and Civil Service the need to support organizations like the Fellowship of Engineering and the Engineering Council, who in complementary ways are striving to create the change in attitudes which is so vital to our future.

Yours faithfully,

CALDECOTE, President,

The Fellowship of Engineering,

2 Little Smales Street, SW1.

October 23.

Leaders we deserve

From Mr Julian Brazier

Sir, We are repeatedly told that peoples get the leaders they deserve. We in the West have seen the Pope struck down and forgive his would-be assassin, the President of the United States joking as they wheeled him into surgery for his bullet wounds and the Queen bear up proudly in the face of a revolver.

Now we have seen the Prime Minister emerge icy calm from her shattered hotel and heard of one of her ministers joking from under the tons of masonry covering him and his wife.

If we deserve even a portion of

leadership, there must surely be more than a little hope for us all.

Yours faithfully,

JULIAN BRAZIER,

47 Moreton Place, SW1.

October 17.

Oh, M Porter!

From Mr C. F. Whittall

Sir, A few weeks ago, after many years' absence from France, I decided to make a tour, by rail, of the greater French Gothic cathedrals.

When I got to France, however, and was faced with much entering and leaving stations and climbing into trains, I realised that I had bunched myself with far too heavy a suitcase for a very senior citizen.

I feared that the suitcase was going to ruin my holiday. But I need not have worried.

At every station strong men, and

in two cases women, appeared and

insisted on carrying the suitcase.

On the occasion of the French President's state visit to London I should like to thank those kind people who enabled me to complete my pilgrimage and enjoy their country's greatest works of art.

Yours faithfully,

C. F. WHITTALL,

14 Charlton Road,

Cuckfield,

West Sussex.

South African four

From Mr L. G. Baxter and others

Sir, The South African Foreign Minister has stated that the decision of his Government not to return, as it had undertaken, the four South Africans accused of unlawful arms dealing was reached on the basis of "legal advice".

Lest it be thought that the South African Government's view of the law is shared by the legal community in South Africa as a whole, we would draw your attention to representation made by various legal

bodies to the Minister urging him to reconsider. We ourselves strongly deplore the South African Government's action, for which we believe in no legal justification.

Yours faithfully,

L. G. BAXTER,

A. K. BLOMMAERT,

A. B. BORROWDALE,

M. G. COWLING,

B. T. DALLING,

University of Natal,

School of Law,

P.O. Box 375,

Pietermaritzburg,

South Africa.

October 15.

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and a valid reason for worship.

It has a structure given through

the centuries which has served

the world, and in particular those

who undermine it undermine western

civilisation.

I am a member of the Church

Commissioners and the reality

is that the Commissioners

have destroyed the Grade 1

building (Holy Trinity,

Rugby) against the recommendation

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Controls, more controls or free exchange?

Free convertibility of sterling is now such a vital, taken-for-granted condition for international banking and investment, and such an indispensable part of the growth of the City of London as a world financial services centre, that it is easy to forget exchange controls were abolished only five years ago yesterday.

Although there was a short run-up, and free convertibility was clearly a part of the new Tory market philosophy, Sir Geoffrey Howe's decision back in 1979 came as something of a surprise. Before taking office he had envisaged a slow, cautious process of dismantling controls. The 1979 oil price hike changed all that. Sterling was the flavour of the year. Sir Geoffrey opted for wholesale demolition. And it had no discernible effect for more than a year.

Whether the City investors who had been so anxious to free overseas investment controls decided to back the pound along with everyone else, or whether it took them a year to adjust to freedom is hard to say. But overseas investment took off with a vengeance in 1980, accelerating from £400m in the first half to more than £1 billion in the second.

Overseas investment then continued right up until this year, when institutional net buying of foreign shares slowed to £300m in the first quarter, then swung into disinvestment of £700m in the second quarter — the first three month period in which institutions had been net sellers of foreign shares since 1976. To some extent, this marked the long-awaited completion of the restructuring of portfolios. The big investors had brought their proportions of North American and Far Eastern shares up to the long-term desired level. And the institutions were holding back some

money for British Telecom and British Airways, utility shares not previously available here.

The main lesson of the five intervening years has been that economic ideas conceived in the age of exchange controls now look decidedly old-fashioned.

The first casualty was the idea that investment financed by public borrowing automatically crowded out private investment. With free currency convertibility, capital flows abroad had to be included in the calculations. As the Bank of England conceded in 1981, "the effectiveness of exchange controls in the past is likely to mean that in the absence of controls, domestic interest rates are now somewhat higher."

The disappearance of the old Bretton Woods exchange control system, under which domestic saving essentially financed domestic investment, meant that other countries' public borrowing could just as easily absorb our savings as our own. There is little doubt that, via high interest rates, the US deficit has "crowded out" British investment.

The abolition of exchange controls has likewise made nonsense of Labour's exchange-rate policy. Abolishing exchange controls has almost certainly left the pound lower than it would otherwise be. Yet Mr Roy Hattersley still plans to impose exchange controls to keep funds in this country (and even to compel their return); while at the same time he is aiming to devalue the pound. To Mr Hattersley, devaluation via the market is wrong, whereas devaluation by Government fiat is right. He seems to want controls to keep the pound up, plus more controls to get it down.

Tokyo eases the City's way

Encouraging signals were coming out of Tokyo yesterday on the vexed issue of access to the Japanese securities market for British brokers and merchant banks. Talks this week between British and Japanese financial officials may have succeeded in breaking the logjam, which has long delayed applications by a number of British companies seeking securities licences in Tokyo, thus defusing the threat of retaliation against Japanese securities houses in London.

This week's talks were conceived some months ago, and were originally intended as a fairly general mutual education session on developments in each other's markets. But increasingly the difficulties and bureaucratic delays encountered by British companies in Tokyo have come to the fore. Attempts to graduate from representative offices, which are allowed to do very little, to branch office status which brings with it important concessions on commission rates, appear to have been blocked, and the suspicion grew that the Japanese wanted to relate the issue to the ambitions of their securities houses in London.

The British position has been that there was already a large imbalance between what Japanese securities houses could do in London and what their British counterparts could do in Tokyo. The team, headed by Mr Geoffrey Little, second permanent secretary at the Treasury, and including officials from the Bank of England and the Department of Trade, went to Tokyo to try to correct this imbalance.

Mr Little conceded yesterday that their minor diplomatic triumph will have to be put to the test of time. But on the question of licences, he was optimistic. "We will be very disappointed if there isn't action by the end of the year. I think we have made good progress, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating," he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Reeves to head bank

Mr Christopher Reeves, deputy chairman and chief executive of Morgan Grenfell & Co., is to succeed the late Mr William Mackworth-Young as chairman.

Mr Reeves, 48, is at present involved in the plans for the firm to merge with Pember and Boyle, the stockbroker.

Morgan Grenfell & Co is the merchant banking subsidiary of Morgan Grenfell Holdings, where Mr Reeves is a director.

• RIO TINTO-ZINC's Australian subsidiary, CRA, is joining two German companies — Krupp Stahl and Kloeckner-Werke in a merger of their steelmaking operations.

• COMPUTER AND SYSTEMS Engineering is raising £24m through a one-for-five rights issue at 240p a share. Interim profits rose by 70 per cent to £2.3m for the six months trading to September 30 and the interim dividend goes up from 0.34p to 0.45p.

Tempus, page 23

• PRETAX PROFITS at C. H. Beazer rose by 83 per cent to £11.3m on sales ahead by 86 per cent to £1.35m for the year to June 30. The dividend rises by 17 per cent to 10.5p.

Tempus, page 23

• INTERIM PROFITS at F. J. C. Lilley fell from £6.5m to £4.4m for the six months to July 31 on sales ahead from £11m to £136m. The interim dividend is unchanged at 1.2p.

Tempus, page 23

US gas boost for Britoil

Britoil is likely to have to pay Amax, the US mining group, a further \$10m (£8m) for the 50 per cent interest it acquired in Amax's US oil and gas properties a year ago. Jeremy Warner writes from Paris.

Mr Pierre Gousseland said yesterday that the joint venture's natural gas find in the Gulf of Mexico is so good that it

will almost certainly trigger this extra on top of the \$83m Britoil has already paid. The Britoil-Amax company has a 20 per cent stake in the offshore block Timbaler 200. Mr Gousseland said: "We are certain that we have a major gas find on this structure, though I am not at liberty yet to talk about its exact size".

Apart from brokers' licences in Tokyo, the British side was highly concerned over how British banks will be treated under new guidelines being drawn up, under pressure from the United States, on foreign bank participation in trust banking and investment management activities in Japan.

This round of talks, however, sets the stage for negotiations later in the year over such delicate points. The Japanese are hopeful that a solution will be found to the Nomura problem somewhat along the lines of agreements which have allowed American securities companies to hold London banking licences.

In a separate move, the City's big discount house, is to take a 50 per cent stake in Inter

Commodities, the commodities and financial futures broker to expand its services before restructuring of London markets.

In a separate move, the Merchant Navy Pension Fund revealed the sale of its 6.75 per cent stake in Union Discount, a close rival of Gerrard among the discount houses, as part of a bid by the fund to scale down its exposure to financial companies.

Inter Commodities, was set up in 1972 by the joint managing directors, Mr Mark Davies and Mr Christopher Sharples. It has been closely linked to Gerrard for the last two years via GNI the joint venture set up to trade as brokers on the London futures market.

Mr Bishop was sharply criticized by the Takeover Panel and in a Department of Trade report in 1978 for his share dealings during a takeover of Grendon Trust, where he was a director.

The report describes Mr Bishop as "irresponsible" and "devious" when he was a witness during the investigation.

Mr Bishop, age 49, a former

director of Scottish Investments and Erskine House Investment Trust, said last night: "I accepted the appointment because I am interested in the growth area of financial services. I don't think my past record will deter people from dealing with Grovebell.

Mr Advani said yesterday:

"Mr Bishop has told me that he has been rapped over the knuckles a number of times, but always proved that everything he

Imports rise to a record as trade deficit falls by £764m

By David Smith

Economics Correspondent

Britain's overseas trade was in deficit by £764m last month, as imports rose to a new record level. Last month's visible trade deficit was larger than the £716m recorded for the whole of last year.

The invisibles account, shipping, insurance, banking and interest, was estimated to have been in surplus by £250m last month, producing a deficit on current account of £254m.

Sterling was largely unaffected by the poor trade figures, with the attention of the foreign exchanges focused on developments in the miners' strike and continuing dollar weakness.

The pound gained 1.5 cents against the dollar to close at £1.275, and two pence against the Deutsche mark to DM3.6950. The sterling index rose 0.3 to 74.9.

Sterling was helped by the pitiful

US consumer prices, up 0.4 per cent last month after 0.5 per cent rise in August, had little impact. The dollar lost 2.2 pence against the Deutsche mark at DM3.0220, the dollar index fell 0.3 to 140.3.

Imports rose by £103m last month to a new record level of £6,621m. This was in spite of a £166m fall in oil imports. There may have been some bringing forward of imports in expectation of new value-added tax regulations, due next Thursday, which will require the payment of VAT entry, although the effect is unquantifiable.

Exports rose by £103m last month, although this still represented the third highest monthly total on record. The drop of £94m from August's record level is accounted for by a return to more normal trade levels, after the August figures were artificially boosted by the recovery from the dock strike.

The dollar lost ground on expectations that US interest rates could be reduced further. The Federal fund rate dropped to 6 per cent, although this was largely for technical reasons.

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Kwik-Fit's interim profit down

By Christopher Dunn

The British spare car parts industry faltered in the early part of this year, according to Mr Tom Farmer, chairman of the Edinburgh-based car accessories concern, Kwik-Fit Holdings, who yesterday announced the group's interim trading results.

Pretax profits fell from £2.4m to £1.8m for the six months to August 31, 1984, on sales of £30.4m (£28.2m). The interim dividend is unchanged at 0.7843p.

Spare parts sales fell during the period, and the replacement car exhaust market was particularly badly affected. Exhaust manufacturers' overcapacity resulted in stock dumping at very low prices, which led in turn, according to Mr Farmer, to intense price competition at the retail level. Total demand for replacement exhausts in Britain may have fallen by as much as 20 per cent.

But Kwik-Fit increased its share of the replacement exhaust market during the period under review.

French Connection with US quadruples profits

By Alison Eddie

French Connection, the fashion company run by Mr Stephen Marks, the designer, produced interim pretax profits of £3.8m compared with £819,000 on turnover of £17.2m against £7.3m. The shares hit a new peak at 410p but eased back to close at 385p, 5p down on the day. The shares came to the USM only a year ago at 123p.

The impressive growth was fuelled largely by the acquisition of a 50 per cent stake in French Connection's sole United States distributor, Best of All Clothing, which contributed £2.47m in profits and £8.6m to turnover.

The original British and French businesses continued to do well with profits up 67 per cent at £1.37m on turnover up 14 per cent in the United Kingdom and 28 per cent in France.

Growth prospects for the company look best in the United States, where French Connection sells through 1,700 retail accounts. In the United Kingdom, where sales are



Stephen Marks: new collections well received

through 800 retail accounts, the scope is more limited, but a new area of expansion in the spring will be a diversification into children's clothes. Children's wear will be sold through department stores like Harrods and through some smaller stores.

Pretax profits in the year to end January 1985 are now

expected to reach a heady £11.5m against £3.27m in 1983-84. Expanding turnover in the United States will be augmented by the strong dollar.

However, the tax charge is expected to remain at its higher level of 48 per cent, due to higher United States and French tax, and earnings per share are only expected to double because of the 50 per cent outside holding in Best of All Clothing.

The autumn and winter collections are showing significant success in sales, the company says, and the spring and summer 1985 collections have been well received. There is a strong seasonal bias in turnover towards the second half.

To complement the company's plan for the growth in the British retail business, it has acquired a freehold factory and plant in South Shields, Tyne and Wear, from the receivers of S. Newman. It is intended to develop the factory, which supplies multiples like Mothercare, into an efficient production unit.

New Corah bid wins Reliance

By Alison Eddie

An increased offer from Leicester-based Corah for Reliance Industrial Holdings — which values the company at £2.78m against £2.57m previously — has won the recommendation of the Reliance board.

Both companies are important suppliers of knitwear and clothing to Marks and Spencer.

Mr Ray Newman, chairman of Reliance, said the logic of Corah's proposal was irrefutable and, given Reliance's trading performance, it was in shareholders' best interests to accept Reliance's pretax profits slumped in 1983-4 to £29,000, against £524,000 and first-half results this year will be poor.

Corah is short of making up capacity for its expanding order book, which Reliance can supply. Reliance cloth can also use the spare capacity at Corah's modern dyehouse.

Corah's revised bid is three new Corah shares for every five Reliance compared with the previous five-for-nine. The cash alternative is equivalent to 32.4p against 30p before.

WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones) — Wall Street stocks turned lower on slower trading yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 1.44 points at 1211.57 in early trading.

Declining issues led advances by about 575 issues to 540.

International Business Machines at 126.7 was up 1.7. General Motors at 18-1 was up 4. General Electric at 57.1 was up 1.4. Penn Central was down 3-8 at 45.5-8. Morton Thiokol was up 11-2 to 88.

at 132.5-8 was down 1-8. Eastman Kodak at 72.5-8 was unchanged. American Express at 37.1-4 was up 1-4 and Digital Equipment at 102.3-4 was up 1-3.

Textron was up 6.1-4 to 42.1.

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STOCK MARKET REPORT

STC tumbles as Scrimgeour trims profit forecast by £5m

By Derek Pain

Shares of Standard Telephones and Cables, the telecommunications group, slumped to within 11.7 points of their year's low yesterday as Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee, the broker reduced its profit forecasts.

There was heavy selling of the shares, pushing the price down 14p to 266p, as Scrimgeour pulled back its profit projection for this year to £17m and next year to £180m. In each case, the revision represents a £5m cut.

The downgrading, although modest, is a further example of the stock market's growing unease over STC's shares. The £411m takeover of ICL, Britain's leading computer group,

Phillips & Drew, the broker, remains optimistic about Exca International, the financial group, after a City climb this week. Mr John Atkin, a P & D analyst, believes this year's profits will be more than £70m (£2.5m) and next year's results will top 990m. Exca shares rose 5p to 48p.

was achieved by a share exchange and left many weak holders of STC stock.

There is also the nagging worry that ITT, the big American conglomerate, will soon have to sell about 3 per cent of STC to comply with the Government's requirement that its holding in the merged STC/ICL company should be held at 34 per cent.

Evidence is also accumulating that City analysts are becoming increasingly less impressed by STC's prospects. Sentiment was not helped this month when it became known that STC was not in the running for the British Telecom contract for digital local exchanges.

At one stage this year STC shares were riding at a 372p peak.

Equities had started the day

in fine style, seemingly determined to build on Tuesday's 11.7 points advance. But there was little buying follow through. So the FT 30-share index, at one point a seemingly decisive 7.8 points higher at 875.0 points, closed 1 point down at 866.2 points.

It was much the same story with the FT-SE index, which ended 2.4 points down at 1,125.4 points.

Various factors caused the market's enthusiasm to wane. Although Nacods, the pit deputies' union, eventually called off tomorrow's strike, Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, had already dampened enthusiasm with his uncompromising comments ahead of the meeting with the National Coal Board.

The poor September trade figures were another inhibiting influence. Government stocks enjoyed a firm start, helped by a much stronger performance by sterling against the dollar and lower US interest rates. But gains at one time reiterating up to 4p were eliminated in late trading and the market closed with losses of up to 4p.

Imperial Chemical Industries' ahead of today's eagerly awaited third quarter figures, closed 2p to 670p. Trusthouse

The market has become too fearful about the impact the miners' strike is having on Caltex's (Holdings), the oil-based check trader and retailer. Worries that the long-running dispute will sharply reduce profits have lowered the shares 10p to 21p. But group turnover is apparently up on last year and this year's profits could come out similar to last year's £1.9m.

Forst was a little unsettled by a line of stock on offer and closed 1p lower at 12.5p.

After their recent remarkable progress, food succumbed to profit taking. Rowntree Mackintosh fell 6p to 368p as Mr Basil Collins, chairman of Nabisco's British arm, denied bid intentions.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling had a good day on foreign exchange markets yesterday.

The decision by Nacods late in the day to call off their strike and hopes that new talks between the NCB and NUM may settle the pit dispute helped the pound to recover some of its lost ground.

A weak dollar was also

instrumental in underpinning sterling.

At the end of a relatively quiet session the pound finished the day showing a one and a half cent rise against the dollar at 51.225p, while its trade-weighted index moved forward 0.3 at the final calculation of 74.9, compared with 74.6 on Tuesday.

But activity gradually died away and rates edged off.

Clearances Bank Rail 10s

Overnight: High 10s Low 8

Week: Fixed: 10s-10s

Treasury Bill (D/P)

Bank 10s 10s 10s 10s

3 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

1 year 10s 10s 10s 10s

2 years 10s 10s 10s 10s

3 years 10s 10s 10s 10s

6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

12 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

Local Authority: Bank 10s

1 month 10s 10s 10s 10s

2 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

4 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

5 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

1 year 10s 10s 10s 10s

2 years 10s 10s 10s 10s

3 years 10s 10s 10s 10s

6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

12 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

Overnight: High 10s Low 8

Week: Fixed: 10s-10s

Treasury Bill (D/P)

Bank 10s 10s 10s 10s

3 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

1 year 10s 10s 10s 10s

2 years 10s 10s 10s 10s

3 years 10s 10s 10s 10s

6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

12 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

Local Authority: Bank 10s

1 month 10s 10s 10s 10s

2 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

4 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

5 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

1 year 10s 10s 10s 10s

2 years 10s 10s 10s 10s

3 years 10s 10s 10s 10s

6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

12 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

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6 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

12 months 10s 10s 10s 10s

Overnight: High 10s Low 8

Week: Fixed: 10s-10s

Treasury Bill (D/P)

Bank 10s 10s 10s 10s

THE TIMES
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on the page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
1	Inst Signal & Control	
2	MK Elec	
3	Arka Elec	
4	Farnell Elec	
5	Micro Focus	
6	Plessey	
7	Cray Elec	
8	Grovernor	
9	Barthorn	
10	Bowthorpe	
11	Ash & Lacey	
12	BTR	
13	Black (Piers)	
14	Brumsons (Must)	
15	AGB Research	
16	Christies Int'l	
17	Bertiford (SW)	
18	DPCE	
19	Dalgen	
20	PROPERTY	
21	Pearley	
22	Briston	
23	Mucklow (A&J)	
24	Estates Prop	
25	Boazier (CH)	
26	Greycoat City	
27	Chasefield	
28	Kent (MP)	
29	Hammerman 'A'	
30	Loe Shop Prop	
31	King & Sharrow	
32	Union	
33	Nat West	
34	Brown Shipton	
35	Bank of Ireland	
36	Uicds	
37	Hill Samuel	
38	Mercury Secs	
39	Schindlers	
40	Gerard Nut	

© Times Newspapers Limited Your Daily Total

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1984	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chg	Cross	only	Red.
SHORTS								
100	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
101	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
102	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
103	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
104	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
105	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
106	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
107	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
108	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
109	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
110	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
111	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
112	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
113	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
114	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
115	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
116	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
117	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
118	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
119	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
120	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
121	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
122	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
123	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
124	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
125	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
126	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
127	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
128	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
129	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
130	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
131	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
132	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
133	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
134	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
135	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
136	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
137	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
138	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
139	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
140	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
141	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
142	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
143	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
144	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
145	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
146	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
147	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
148	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
149	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
150	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
151	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
152	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
153	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
154	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
155	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
156	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
157	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
158	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
159	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
160	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
161	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
162	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
163	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
164	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
165	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
166	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
167	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
168	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
169	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
170	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
171	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
172	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
173	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
174	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
175	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
176	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
177	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
178	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
179	100	99	100	100	0	100	100	0
180								

COMPANY NEWS
IN BRIEF

• **SAMUEL PROPERTIES:** First 4p making 5.5p (5.2p) for the year to June 30. (Figures in £'000). Turnover 18,166 (20,627). Operating profit 3,774 (4,084). Share of loss of associates 658 (profit 190). Profit before tax 3,116 (4,274). Tax 773 (1,110). Minorities 16 (34). Extraordinary credits 1,071 (222). Earnings per share 8.18p (10.85p). Shares 151 down 1.

• **WALTER RUNCIMAN:** For half-year to June 30. Interim dividend 2.5p (same), payable on January 4. (Figures in £'000). Turnover 39,055 (32,770). Gross profit 7,655 (7,992); operating profit 553 (1,148). Pre-tax loss 107 (profit 70). After tax loss 58 (profit 36). Minorities loss 129 (loss 122).

• **SHOES:** Result for six months to July 28. (Figures in £'000). Turnover 39,653 (37,160). Pre-tax profit 2,949 (2,949). Tax 1,917 (1,953).

• **WOODCHESTER INVESTMENTS:** Half year to September 30. 2.5p (2p). The company intends in lieu of final. A second interim of 4p per share (2nd interim dividend 4p) (3p) (Figures in £'000). Gross revenue 1,269 (1,255). Pre-tax profit 132 (124). Interest payable 235 (234). Pre-tax loss 706 (341). Shares 120 down 2p.

• **COMBEN GROUP:** Six months in June 30. No interim. (Figures in £'000). Group turnover 47,851 (31,618). Pre-tax profit 2,511 (2,006). Tax 160 (420). Earnings per share 4.0p (2.84p).

• **ENGLISH NATIONAL INVESTMENT CO:** Interim dividend 1.4p (1.3p). Per deferred ordinary 2.3p (1.85p). Per deferred ordinary for six months to September 30. Dividends and interest received £138,646 (£30,811). Other income £32,068 (£125,147). Making gross income £170,714 (£155,958). Interest charges and expenses £38,703 (£33,266). Pre-tax profit £132,011 (£12,692).

• **J. H. FENNER:** Has acquired from the Arbee Corp. of Manheim, Pennsylvania, the assets of its Manheim manufacturing and building division for \$2.5m (£2m).

• **SPECTRUM GROUP:** Year to June 30. Had Spectrum's ord. shares been publicly held throughout the year, it would have been the second intention to recommend a final dividend of 1.8p per share. Figures in £'000. Turnover 39,795 (12,891). Pre-tax profit 1,835 (307).

• **BICC:** Has reached an agreement for Power Technologies to buy BICC's 58.13 per cent stake in its S. African offshoot, Scottish Cables. For £12.8m (£6m).

• **BRITISH RAYOPHANE:** Half-year to June 30. Figures in £'000. Turnover 29,580 (26,885). Pre-tax profit 725 (1,005). Profits for the second half are expected to exceed the first half.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Telecom buys huge holdings of land and buildings

By Judith Huntley

An unlikely developer has been hard at work in the past year

British Telecom could well turn out to be one of Britain's largest property companies with a portfolio estimated to be worth more than £1 billion. This would make it a rival in size, if not quality, to the likes of Hammerson and MEPC.

Information about BT's property holdings is hard to come by. Indeed, it is doubtful whether BT itself knows exactly how much property it owns but it does say that property accounts for 15 per cent of its assets.

These had a net book value of £7.14 billion in last year's accounts, based on an internal valuation.

It is difficult to put a figure on its property assets, many of which are operational land and buildings. BT has yet to say whether there will be an external valuation once the company is floated. And it seems unlikely that BT's initial prospectus, due out tomorrow, will shed much light on the matter.

While it must be said that BT's business is not that of property development and investment, it is taking the subject seriously and the property market has been taking note of BT's heightened activity in the last year. The company is in the process of re-structuring its regional set up, which has generated a great demand for buildings.

It is the responsibility of BT's new director of property management, Mr Richard Luff, to oversee all the property requirements of the company and this includes buying and selling where appropriate.

Mr Luff is well qualified for the task. He was formerly chief



Marble arches: the reception hall of the newly-restored 100 Piccadilly

£1.45m a year rent sought for Piccadilly offices

London & Leeds Investments, the property division of the Ladbroke Group, is asking no less than £1.45m a year in rent for its 60,000 sq ft blend of old and new office space at 100 Piccadilly in London's West End. The original building opposite Green Park has been restored in lavish style courtesy of Mr David Hicks and a modern air-conditioned office block built at the rear, complete with atrium.

London & Leeds bought the building four years ago when it

was still used as a club. The company says it spent £2m on the finishes but will not reveal how much the overall development cost.

London & Leeds intends to sell the scheme and is gradually completing its other London office projects. The emphasis in future will be on developing luxury apartments and shopping schemes rather than the office market. Letting agents for 100 Piccadilly are Richard Ellis, Michael Laurie & Partners and D. E. & J. Levy.

built for it close to St Paul's Cathedral in the City. As well as accommodating its central London staff, the building will no doubt impress prospective investors.

The rest of the property portfolio may not be as impressive but it could well contribute to BT's profits if handled in the right way. The first set of accounts from the privatised BT should throw some light on the matter.

BT has 35,000 sq ft in Churchill House, Red Lion Square, in Holborn, for which it is paying £230,000 a year for the building with retail space on the ground floor being used as a telephone shop. This is common practice for BT which has a growing number of shops selling its range of telephones.

The most recent letting to BT is the 33,775 sq ft at 24m, Broadway House at Bromley, Kent, developed by Rush & Tompkins' property division.

BT is paying £230,000 a year for the building with retail space on the ground floor being used as a telephone shop. This is common practice for BT which has a growing number of shops selling its range of telephones.

BT is the most likely tenant for MacKay Securities' 30,000 sq ft office block in Greyfriars Road, Reading, Berkshire. The biggest letting in Leeds for some considerable time was also due

to BT. It took 125,000 sq ft in the city.

The Merseyside Development Corporation and the developer Arrowcroft were hoping to get BT as a tenant for the restored Albert Dock complex in Liverpool but BT eventually took 70,000 sq ft in Imperial Buildings in the city centre developed by Sun Life Assurance and Ulster Properties.

BT's flagship is the impressive new London headquarters

Isle of Dogs leads docklands revival

• Attempts to regenerate

London's dockland are showing

most signs of success in the Isle

of Dogs enterprise zone. The

Millets Centre, a 13,170 sq ft

office and industrial

development, has been sold for

£1m. Paul Sykes Developments of Leeds bought the scheme,

built on a one-acre site, from

College Hill Securities which

developed the building with

Geoffrey Osborn. The centre

has yet to find a tenant. The

asking rent through agents

Henry Butcher and St Quintin

is £90,000 a year for the 25-year

lease with five-yearly reviews.

Henry Butcher has sold the

No 1 Olsen Shed, also in the

enterprise zone to R. Maskell,

which recently bought the

House of Holland group.

Maskell has bought the shed,

which will be turned into

120,000 sq ft of offices and

warehousing and on a 5.3 acre

site, from the London

Docklands Development

Corporation which has its

headquarters next door. The

whole development will cost

£2.5m to build.

• The strength of the auction

market, which has been a

growing force over the last two

years, can be seen from the sale

of a rare City of London

freehold for £1.21m this week.

Allsop & Co, on behalf of a

development company, has sold

six small properties at Carter

Lane, Cobbe Court and 33

Lodge Hill to another

developer. The leases on the

buildings have six-monthly

break clauses for

redevelopment.

The Lodge Hill area of the

City, once the poor relation,

is now becoming a popular

location for tenants and

investors alike. Eagle Star

Properties is developing offices

adjacent to the auctioned site

and Land Securities is believed

to have let part of its

refurbishment at 50 Lodge

Hill to Deloitte, Haskins &

Sons, the accountant.

Ford Camber, a joint

company formed by Watney

Combe Reid, Lazarus

and Lysander Investments

wants permission for a £50m,

32,000 sq ft office on the site,

but a rival application by

Greycoat City Offices has been

submitted for 193,000 sq ft of

offices with 31,000 sq ft of

space.

The insurance companies put

£2.19m into property with

pension funds investing £167m,

unit trusts at £1.4m and £35m

coming from the building

societies. Pension fund

investment was down but

insurance companies are back

in line with 1982/83 levels. The

unit trust figure was the best for

two years. The institutions put

£1.35 billion in to gilts and

£860m in British equities. There

has been a disinvestment from

overseas equities, the first since

1976, with the institutions

selling £748m worth.

APPOINTMENTS

Three move up at the Britannia

Britannia Building Society: from January 1, Mr Michael Shaw, chief general manager, will take over the duties of the retiring managing director. Mr Norman Cowburn, but retain his present title; Mr Roy Griffiths, deputy general manager responsible for development, will become general manager, with special responsibility for business development, branch offices and mortgage policy; and Mr Kenneth Heywood will become general manager responsible for administration.

STC: Mr Duncan Lewis has been appointed director, business intelligence and planning.

Gota (UK): Mr Eric Carter has become a non-executive director.

Davy McKee (Poole): Mr R. J. Tazzman will become managing director at the end of the year, succeeding Mr Peter Jackson. Mr Tazzman is at present commercial and financial director.

Ellerman City Liners: Mr Michael Parker has joined the company as sales and marketing director.

Private Patients Plan: Mr Richard Blaxland has become a director.

Daniel C. Griffith: Dr Andrew Barber has been appointed chief executive.

TDS circuits: Mr Stephen Fahy has become operations director.

Thorn EMI Ferguson: Dr H. J. Maxim becomes chairman from January, in succession to Mr R. E. Norman, who will continue to be a non-executive director of Ferguson and president of TDT (Holdings) Bt.

Watc Group: Mr John Clegg has been made managing director.

Aitken Hume Funds (Management): Mr Paul Saunders has joined the board as unit trust marketing director following Mr Geoffrey Hyde's appointment to the board of Aitken Hume International, where he will be responsible for overall marketing of the group's products and services.

Czarnikow: Mr A. P. Schenk, who will be retiring as chairman from the end of this year, will be succeeded by Mr M. D. Chataway. Mr John Thomson and Mr John de Havilland are to become non-executive directors of both Czarnikow Holdings and C

Efisio's formidable finish should prove decisive

By Mandarin

Young Runaway missed last week's Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket to wait for today's apparently easier Horris Hill Stakes at Newbury. And, after his second to the brilliant filly, Oh So Sharp, in the Solaris Stakes at Sandown Park, followed by an authoritative victory over Sharp Romance in the Laurent Perrier Champagne Stakes at Doncaster, Guy Harwood's colt will be at short odds for today's test over an extended seven furlongs.

However, impressive though he was at Doncaster, those behind him that day have since shown themselves to be rather ordinary. So, if you add to this the fact that Harwood's team have not exactly been carrying all before them recently, it may pay to take a chance with Efisio, a colt whose own stable, that of John Dunlop, is seeing out the season in almost invincible form.

Efisio is unbeaten in three runs and although he makes a considerable step up in class today he could well be equal to it. His most impressive success came in his last outing when the son of Formidable showed remarkable acceleration to cut down Tyrolife in a well-contested six-furlong nursery at Ascot. Efisio was carrying second top weight that day and

the way he was pulling away from the rest at the finish suggested that today's extra distance should not trouble him.

A line through Our Jock, who finished sixth to Efisio at Ascot, suggests that there should be little between Dunlop's horse and another of today's runners, Ticky Bender, who will be ridden by Lester Piggott. Ticky Bender beat Our Jock by just a short head at Newmarket on Saturday, but was giving him 11lb more than Efisio did, so clearly he will be a dangerous rival.

Assemblyman, who beat Grayfoot in a decent race at Doncaster, and Vertige, who will be wearing blinkers for the first time, also cannot be ruled out of what should prove a close and fascinating contest.

Willie Carson, who rides Efisio, could also take the Rochford Thomson Newbury Stakes on Royal Pet. Dick Hern's filly finished sixth to today's almost certain favourite, Tundra Goose, when that filly won at Newmarket on her debut earlier this month. However, Royal Pet is now 7lb better off and a man as shrewd as Hern would not be taking the winner on again unless he had good reason to believe his filly could reverse the placings.

Carson will also be the choice of many to win the Great Western Stakes on the Queen's Rough Stones, who made up for a lapse at York when beating the older Cheka in style at Haydock. However, preference is for Rostova, who, in receipt of 5lb, is tipped to win this nice prize for Frank Dunn.

Rostova was out of her depth in the Princess Royal Stakes at Ascot, although she was far from disgraced in finishing seventh to One Way Street. Before that she has finished second to Kingswick - who has won again since - at Newmarket and had been an impressive winner from another of today's runners, Vital Boy (who is only 2lb better off) over slightly further than today's trip.

In the other competitive handicap on this afternoon's card, the five-furlong Cape Dried Fruit Trophy, Amigo Loco, who followed a York victory with a good fourth to Lucky Dutch at Newmarket, is taken to defy top weight at the expense of the easy Ascot winner, Deputy Head.

The best bet at Redcar could be Gilt Star (3.45) trained by Paul Kellaway and the mount of his daughter, Gay. Ridden by Gay's sister, Sarah, Gilt Star trounced Ruff's Luck at Chepstow on Monday.

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Vester's winning combination of Fred Winter, Shaikh Ali Abu Khamas and Richard Linley (who that race two years ago with Fifty Dollars) will be entered.

Winter said: "We will see what the weights are like before deciding which to run."

Half Free is only a pony, but is a cracking little horse now he's got his act together and I'm satisfied with him."

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The champion jockey found

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We particularly welcome applications from black people, disabled people and women who are under-represented in particular jobs.

General Appointments

Fire Protection Engineers

National fire protection company with offices in all states of Australia and overseas, connections, seeks fire protection engineers experienced in all facets of fixed fire protection.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate 7-9 years proven experience in designing and estimating both high and medium velocity water spray systems, low expansion foam systems and unbalanced halon 1301 and carbon dioxide high and low pressure fire systems. Specialists with in-depth experience in most of these areas would not necessarily be excluded.

It is anticipated that applicants currently hold key positions in the industry and should be seeking opportunities and have the potential to take on more senior responsibilities.

Salary and conditions are negotiable depending on experience.

For genuine applicants wishing a personal interview, the Chief Executive will be in London on November 16th and 17th. An appointment can be made by forwarding your application complete direct to Mr K. P. Curry of Holiday Inn Hotel, Heathrow, marked "Personal Interview". Applicants will be contacted by phone or telegram of appointment time and date.

Applicants not requiring an interview, forward their written applications complete with copies of references and curriculum vitae marked private and confidential to: The Chief Executive, P.O. Box 170, Cottesloe Hill, Victoria 3068, Australia.

BBC SOUTH WEST RESEARCHER (One-year contract)

We are looking for a Researcher with journalistic experience, to work with the Current Affairs and News Department in London and the Spotlight South West team in Plymouth involved in the finding and setting up of items for programmes. Knowledge of script writing techniques and a keen visual sense an advantage and we will be looking for journalistic imagination and ability. Salary around £8,850. Based Plymouth but will be required to work in London as necessary. Contact us immediately for application form (quote ref. 3691/T and enclose s.a.e.): BBC Appointments, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 01-927 5799.

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BANKING AND ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

West End commercial film production company requires Part-time Book-keeping Bookkeeper with experience to total balance 20 or 30 days per month, salary £1,000 per month. Box 547 W The Times

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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Lending a corporate expertise

Secondment - sending an officer or senior non-commissioned officer to a different assignment outside his unit for a limited period - has long been established practice in the services, but it is a relatively new concept in management. Now it is being taken up by some of Britain's best known and most successful companies.

Marks & Spencer, ICL, IBM, leading building societies, the clearing and merchant banks, insurance companies and some of the big accounting practices are among the 250 or so active supporters of the two main organizations who are promoting and arranging secondment. Business in the Community and Action Resource Centre.

Their objectives are slightly different. Business in the Community sees its role as providing centralized coordinating support to the growing number of enterprise agencies which have been set up as a link between large national concerns and small local businesses.

Action Resource Centre are also involved in this kind of work through their placing of secondees with business advice centres, but extend their activities into a wider range of community activities, principally those concerned with job creation.

There is a certain amount of enlightened self interest behind the support these bodies are getting.

Major companies are recognizing that no one is an economic island and that high unemployment, in taking purchasing power from sections of the community, has a domino effect on the local fortunes of even national chains.

To help stimulate recovery by lending out corporate expertise conveys, therefore, ultimate benefits as well as being desirable from a social point of view. Furthermore, says ARC director Cecilia Allen, sponsor companies have found there is a valuable spin-off in terms of publicity. "Press coverage of local initiatives invariably mentions secondees and the firms they come from."

Secondment has been found to be a useful way of moving executives close to retirement, but principally it is them."

Secondment usually lasts for 6-18 months, during which time the original employer keeps the secondee on the payroll at exactly the same salary and terms as before. Now ARC stresses. "As well as interviewing secondees ourselves we also introduce them to the people on the project they'll be working on. It's only when everything clicks that we accept them."

Secondment is being promoted as a form of mid

Godfrey Golzen looks at opportunities for managers in secondment

marketing to employment law," says Cecilia Allen. "He will come out with a far more rounded picture of the business environment in which his employer operates than he could ever get in the kind of specialist function into which executives almost invariably slot in mid career. "Also from the personal point of view, there could be no better antidote to mid life crisis when it's fed up with career problems."

This is equally true of the community oriented activities that ARC fosters - for instance, sending secondees to run youth training schemes or those concerned with the rehabilitation of offenders, or with working with the disabled. There too learned, not only in terms of his or her own development, but also what the range of problems they might have to cope with is almost infinitely stimulating. "They might have to do anything from setting up bookkeeping systems and training programmes to persuading employers to overcome their prejudices against some minority group by giving advocacy or by exercise, talking to and writing for the media.

The underlying theme, however, is always for the secondee to teach others the job of leadership as well as learning it for him or herself. "We are charitable bodies, but at least one significant private sector consultant, Imbucan, are also convinced of the potential of secondment. As well as lending out their own staff to clients for extended periods in functional as well as consultative roles, they are also now hunting heads for secondment to senior jobs - even at managing director level.

Imbucan's Ray Smith believes this trend will grow. "In times of economic uncertainty companies are nervous about making long term plans. Taking on a secondee gives them a chance to see how things develop as well as creating an opportunity to take a longer look at someone they might want to take on permanently. Working with someone who is seconded to you had to be an infinitely better way of seeing how they'll fit in than a couple of interviews."

Selecting secondees is a very important aspect both for Business in the Community and Action Resource Centre. "It's not a way for companies to get rid of dead wood," Ms Allen stresses. "As well as interviewing secondees ourselves we also introduce them to the people on the project they'll be working on. It's only when everything clicks that we accept them."

Secondment is being promoted as a form of mid

career development: more valuable, some firms consider, than sending a person to a business school. This is not only because the experience they get is strictly at the sharp end, but because it covers such a wide range of occupations.

"When an accountant or a bank manager is seconded to a business advice centre, he's going to be faced with every kind of question from instance, an insurance salesman who Street, Esher, Surrey.

A longer look

ARC and Business in the Community are charitable bodies, but at least one significant private sector consultant, Imbucan, are also convinced of the potential of secondment. As well as lending out their own staff to clients for extended periods in functional as well as consultative roles, they are also now hunting heads for secondment to senior jobs - even at managing director level.

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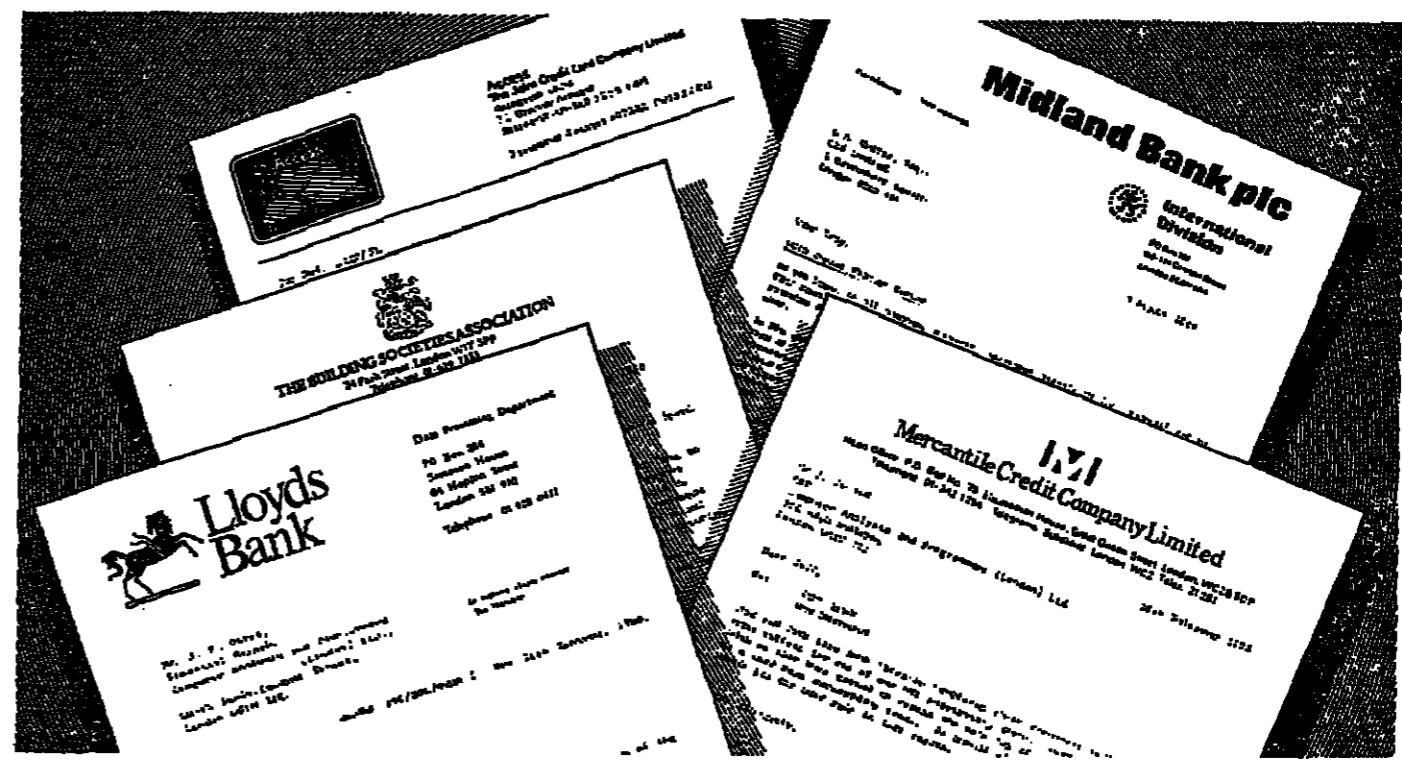
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General Appointments



Letters of credit

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Our close involvement with the City now sees us employing 110 staff with a turnover of £3.5m in 1983 and £7m worldwide. Our customers include the major Banks, the Stock Market, Commodity Markets, Finance Houses and Building Societies.

What better time than now for highly motivated and technologically gifted financial systems specialists to join CAP FINANCIAL? In the months ahead we require additional, experienced men and women in the following key categories:

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If you can identify with a young, thriving company motivated by achievement, we want to hear from you. We are holding informal interviews, anytime between 10 am and 8 pm on the following dates:

Wednesday, 31 October and Thursday, 1 November at 5 Devonshire Square, London EC2 (close to Liverpool St Station)

We warmly invite you to call along, meet the people, sample the environment and take a look at some of our technology.

We will be describing in greater detail the opportunities for early responsibility, client exposure and the rapid learning curve that is part of CAP lifestyle. And of course the financial rewards and career structure, that we believe makes CAP FINANCIAL a rather unique work experience.

For further information, or to reserve a priority interview slot, please contact David Pyke on (01) 623 7755.

Alternatively, call in on either day or write to us with brief career details.

David Pyke, CAP FINANCIAL
5 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YA

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE COMMISSION COMMISSIONER



Western Australia is one of six federated States which with the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory constitute the Commonwealth of Australia.

The Western Australian Government has a policy commitment to pass one piece of Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare legislation to protect "all workers in all workplaces".

A Bill is currently before Parliament to establish a Tripartite Commission of Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare on April 1, 1985. The objectives of the proposed Act have been developed by a Tripartite Committee. The Commission will initially administer existing legislation and make recommendations to the Minister for Industrial Relations for the establishment of the all encompassing Act.

The Commission will have as its operational arm the Department of Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare which will be established to implement standards and to administer statutory relating to the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare.

The National Occupational Health and Safety Commission is also soon to be established and mechanisms are presently being investigated for a State/Federal link.

Subject to the passing of enabling legislation, applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the position of Commissioner which will be based in Perth.

The Commissioner will be the permanent head of the Department and the full-time chairperson of the Commission which will consist of the Commissioner (himself) and eleven part-time members; two from government, three from the Confederation of Industry, three from the Trades and Labour Council and three experts.

DUTIES

1. To be full-time Chairperson of the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Commission and permanent head of the Department.

2. To establish the role, status, credibility and acceptance of the Commission;

3. Be responsible for—

- the efficient operation and management of the Commission, committees established under the auspices of the Commission and staff of the Department;
- the implementation of the Commission's policies;
- facilitating liaison between the National Commission, State Governments and employee/employer organisations;
- report to the Minister for Industrial Relations on policy and implementation of standards and regulations.

4. Liaise with permanent heads of other Government Departments in matters pertaining to the amalgamation of inspectorates.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

1. Ability to comprehend and communicate with members of a multi-disciplinary organisation.

5. An understanding of relevant scientific, medical, technical, social and industrial issues.

6. A relevant tertiary qualification.

As well, the applicant must possess—

1. High level of administrative experience.

2. A commitment to improving occupational health and safety.

3. Sound organisational ability.

SALARY

£50,287 per annum plus an expense of office allowance of £2200 per annum.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

Appointment will be for a term of five (5) years. Prior to the date of expiry consideration may be given to an extension of the term.

Australian citizenship is a prerequisite for appointment with permanent conditions of service. These include superannuation benefits, three months' long service leave after seven years' continuous service, four weeks' annual leave, cumulative sick leave entitlements and other general conditions applicable to permanent officers employed under the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1978. Non Australian citizens are eligible for appointment on temporary conditions of service (until such time as three (3) years of residency has been completed and citizenship awarded).

TRANSPORT AND REMOVAL ASSISTANCE

The cost of first class air fares incurred by the appointee, spouse and dependent children under the age of sixteen years (where applicable), plus a reasonable amount for removal of essential personal and household effects, subject to the appointee entering into an agreement to remain in the employ of the State for one or two years, according to assistance given.

GENERAL

For further information contact:

Dr. Judith Watson

15th Floor

197 St George's Terrace

PERTH Western Australia 6000

Telephone: (09) 420 9491.

OR

The Secretary

Public Service Board

111 St George's Terrace

PERTH Western Australia 6000

Telephone: (09) 322 1300

APPLICATIONS

To state position title, age, citizenship, qualifications and experience with the names of two referees to:

Chairman

Public Service Board

111 St George's Terrace

PERTH Western Australia 6000

Closing: 2.00 pm Thursday, November 15, 1984.

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NUM fights alone as Nacods call off strike

Continued from page 1 under the auspices of Acas the previous day.

This lengthy peace formula began with a statement of intent by the Coal Board, submitted personally by Mr MacGregor, that understanding and trust between the Board and Nacods "should be established and maintained".

The Coal Board went on to withdraw its ruling of August 15 that deputies who refused to cross NUM picket lines will not be paid, and to promise that several more Nacods grievances would be dealt with.

The document says that the Board will put the proposed closure of five "test case" pits into a modified colliery review procedure, which would end in a final appeal to an independent body whose verdict would be given "full weight" in any decision on closure proposals.

The NCB also agreed to "completely reconsider" its proposal of March 6 to shut down four million tons of capacity in the industry during the present financial year, "in the light of the loss of output which has occurred as a result of the dispute and the changes in the needs of the market arising from the circumstances of the dispute."

The formula went on: "The Board will reconsider the proposals for the industry and revise the objectives for the individual areas. Every new set of objectives will be prepared for each area to reflect the production possibilities available at the time the dispute ends".

But this is not enough for the NUM.

The NUM went on to say of the NCB formula: "It does not withdraw the pit closure programme. Its reference to 'the market' and to a new set of objectives is an indication that the Board will continue to pursue a closure programme".

• Mr Scargill last night said on television that he was not optimistic about the chances of success in today's talks with the NCB. There would be "no compromise".

NUM members knew it was going to be "long, hard and bitter battle", but at the end of the day they would save their pits and their jobs.

• A senior Labour Party delegation is to meet the NUM leadership to ensure that money raised to alleviate hardship caused by the strike is not put at risk of sequestration by the courts.

Ethiopia losing the battle against starvation



Facing disaster: An Afar cattle herding family (left) whose cattle died looking for grass; and a dust storm, adds to the soil erosion contributing to Ethiopia's drought and famine. Photographs: Mark Edwards

Afamata, Ethiopia (AP) - Dr George Ngatirri and seven other medical staff fight a daily battle to keep 100,000 people alive at this famine relief centre in northern Ethiopia. Every day they lose 90 to 100, mostly children.

The people who come here are victims of perhaps the greatest famine in Ethiopia's modern history, caused by a decade-long drought and complicated by two secessionist wars in the north.

Ethiopia's Marxist Government estimates the drought has affected life for 7.7 million people in this country of 33 million, forcing 2.2 million from their homes and threatening 5.5 million with starvation.

Every day hundreds more arrive at this recently established camp along the border of

Tigre and Wollo provinces. Last week, north-east of Afamata, Tigrean rebels claimed the capture of the town of Lalibela.

Reporters who visited the Afamata camp, north of the capital of Addis Ababa, found Dr Ngatirri, one other doctor, three nurses and three nutritionists working with 100,000 starving people. Further north, thousands more huddle at another emergency relief camp at Korem.

Dr Ngatirri, a Kenyan, said at least half the victims were children. This day the doctor had turned away a group of mothers and their frail, emaciated babies - victims of pneumonia, scabies, relapsing fever and starvation.

"I'm sorry," he told them, speaking through an interpreter. He had no food or medicine for the new arrivals. With more than 90,000 waiting outside the camp, he had supplies for only 3,000. "There is nothing I can do. I know your children need treatment. I have to treat them, but I have nothing to treat them with. Come back in five days."

As the interpreter translated into Amharic, Dr Ngatirri held up the extended fingers of one hand to indicate five.

Those turned away would have to wait out in the open.

During the day, tropical sun pushes temperatures to 100 deg F. At night, at this elevation of 12,000 feet, temperatures fall to below 50 deg F. Most of the displaced people have thin, worn sheets and ragged clothing to keep themselves warm.

Those accepted inside the camp run by World Vision International must leave at night - even the 100 or so patients on intravenous drips. Ethiopian officials said they risked attack by the rebels if the patients remained inside the camp.

But even at Korem there was not enough food to go around. A reporter who visited Korem in March found 10,000 people going hungry. In late October, there were up to 100,000.

About 80,000 people are

camped outside Makale, north of Korem.

At Korem, relief agencies are feeding nearly 17,000 children daily, a French medical coordinator said. There were at least another 200,000 famine victims within a 260-mile radius of the camp, although all estimates are really guesses.

The Ethiopian Government has said it needs 600,000 metric tons of food by the end of 1985, and has criticized Western nations and agencies for pledging only 160,000 tons so far.

British aid for famine victims

Continued from page 1

film editor at Thames Television. After representations from Oxfam and the Save The Children Fund, they agreed to screen a 71/2-hour documentary entitled *Bitter Harvest* about the famine in Ethiopia tonight at 9pm.

At today's talks in Brussels with officials from the European Commission, the Disasters Emergency Committee, which groups five British charities, will ask for funds to buy vehicles to transport food from Ethiopian ports across rugged terrain into the interior.

A spokesman for Christian Aid said that one of the main

problems confronting the relief agencies was the high cost and shortage of transport.

Pressure for increased aid has also come from the Ethiopian Government. Earlier this week Mr Ato Ayalew Wolde-Giorgis, the Ethiopian Ambassador in London, was told by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, that any such request would be treated sympathetically.

Mr Rifkind told Parliament on Monday that some 15,000 tons of wheat was on its way to Ethiopia - 10,000 tons from Oxfam, 4,000 tons from the Overseas Development Administration and 1,000 tons

from British farmers.

from the current year. The British Government has contributed a total of 20,000 tons of wheat and the EEC some 100,000.

Meanwhile, schoolchildren, shocked and upset by the film of starvation in Ethiopia yesterday donated a ton of grain. It will come from Sheffield's Whirlow Hall farm, a charitable trust regularly used by city children for educational and therapeutic purposes.

After seeing the film, dozens of children contacted the farm asking that part of the harvest they helped to produce should be sent to help famine relief.

Frank Johnson on the campaign trail

Beef sandwiches and Huggy Bear

President Reagan, after his escape from serious injury when debating foreign affairs with Mr Mondale, took off from Kansas City in a westerly direction.

His delivery of Sunday night had given him renewed confidence. His genial old head was as studded as ever with quips, sentimental anecdotes, half-remembered items from "Fancy That" or "Would Ya Believe It?" columns of long ago that jointly constitute his personal research staff. And who could really prove that these sources are less reliable than the think tanks and task forces favoured by more orthodox, less successful politicians?

So it was a buoyant president who set out in Air Force one to ensure the victory which, after Sunday, seems ever more likely to be his. In the "steiger" class aircraft pursuing him came we of the press. Our less genial heads were studded with advance extracts from the President's speeches, hot beef sandwiches, chocolate "bars", McDonald's McMuffins and unlimited supplies of beer. Three hours out from Kansas City we were deposited in a desert in southern California.

The one building in sight was a vast hangar containing a B1 bomber and, more to the point, the several thousand voters who were building it. Mr Reagan descended, looked at the machine lovingly, and inserted early into his speech a cry of "What an airplane". A visit to a factory making a B1 bomber appeared to be for Mr Reagan a sentimental occasion comparable to a visit which a British Labour leader might make to a coalmine or a factory making wheelchairs.

The Ethiopian Government has said it needs 600,000 metric tons of food by the end of 1985, and has criticized Western nations and agencies for pledging only 160,000 tons so far.

Among the jaded press corps, it was more a matter of four more snickers or, once back on the aircraft, four more beers. Those of us new to this campaign, however, found it all entrancing. Mr Reagan seemed popular among all ages and all classes.

Again, such popularity, lie has luck. At one point during the day came bad news about one of his most telling lines in Sunday's debate.

He had knocked Mr Mondale for trying to give an impression of strength by being depicted aboard the aircraft carrier Nimitz. But, if Mr Mondale had had his way, he would have been standing in the sea out there said Mr Reagan, because he had voted against the Nimitz.

Now word came that Mr Mondale had been standing aboard the Midway. Mr Reagan had not known that. More to the point, for purposes of rebuttal during the debate, neither had Mr Mondale.



THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh chairs the first meeting of the National Federation of Housing Associations inquiry into British housing; Buckingham Palace, 10.40.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, British Councils Bureau attends a meeting at the RF Club, Piccadilly, W1, 10.55.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Counsel and Care for the Elderly, attends a reception at Christies, South Kensington, 6.30.

The Duke of Kent attends the British International Motor Show, Birmingham, 10.30; and later opens

the West Midland Sports Centre for the Disabled at Coventry, 2.30.

Prince Michael of Kent visits RAE Farnborough, 10.15.

New exhibitions

International peace poster exhibition, Central Library, Wellgate, Dundee; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5; from today until Nov 18.

Paintings and drawings by Peter Greenaway, Victoria Art Gallery, Bristol; Sat to Mon 10 to 6; Fri 10 to 6; Sat 10 to 5; (ends Nov 24).

Paintings and graphics by Emily Nolde; prints, drawings and books by John Cage; Ketley Yard Gallery, Northampton St, Cambridge, Tues to Sat 12.30 to 5.30; Sun 2 to 5.30; (both end Dec 2).

Small paintings and large monotypes by Stephen Buckley; Festival Gallery, Pierpoint Place, Bath, Tues to Sat 11 to 5; (ends Nov 17).

Music

Recital by Linda Merrick (clarinet), Steven Page (harp) and Andrew Wilkinson (piano); Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's Sq, Manchester, 1.05.

Concert by the Edinburgh Quartet; Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, 6.45.

Concert by Richard May (cello) and the Warwickshire County Youth Orchestra; Royal Spa Centre, Leamington, 7.30.

Concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra; Birmingham Town Hall, 7.30.

Piano recital by John Savory; Guildhall, Derby, 1.45.

Concert by the Alton Ensemble; St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, 1.

Talks, lectures

William Turner of Oxford (1789-1852), by Timothy Wilcox; Lecture Hall, Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, 4.45.

Academic Follies by Prof Laurie Taylor; Bennett Lecture Theatre 1, Leicester University, 8.

One Man's Scotland, by Hamish Brown; Highland Hotel, Fort William, 2.30.

The Golden Age of Screen Comedies, by John Huston; Lecture Theatre, Bolton Central Library, 7.30.

Antique Fair, Assembly Rooms, Bath, 11 to 3 daily; Sat 11 to 6; (ends Oct 27).

Antique Fair, Liverpool Parish Church, St Nicholas, Pier Head, 10.30 to 3.

Hospital accommodation follows later (10).

Crow flies back over the trees, making straight for town (9).

Qua for everybody, with me in Biblical parts (9).

Heath was thus encouraged, he had, to make a scene for Hardy (3).

Academy (3).

<p